

# RES MEDICA

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## Res Medica Mass exodus?

### Abstract

Precise figures are not available for the number of final year medical students who sat the E.C.F.M.G. examination in February. A very conservative estimate is about 30% of the total sat it, but a more probable figure is about 50%. This represents a substantial increase in the number of students who wish to work in the U.S.A. Such an increase cannot be ignored or lightly dismissed.

Students give varying reasons for application. Many feel that they wish to train in the U.S.A. at some stage and that now is the optimum time to sit the E.C.F.M.G examinations. Some wish to 'interne' there, a few only to work there next summer. A few already intend to practice there. Most of the students also regard the February examinations as an incentive to start working for Finals only.

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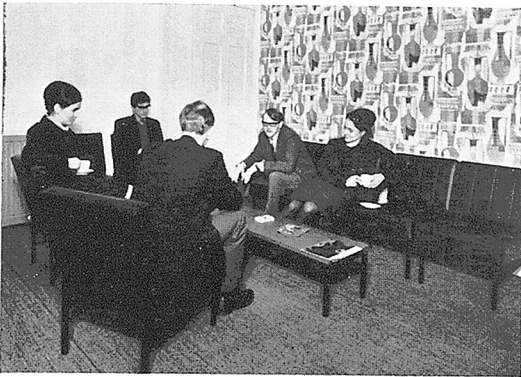
The Library has been partly rehoused at Hill Square. One room is devoted to historic books while another contains a modern up to date reference library where the majority of text-

books and journals in common use can be consulted. The remainder of the library is housed with the University and can be consulted when necessary by applying to the Librarian.

The Museum has been transported from Melbourne Place and discarding many useless appendages it has now been brought up to date with a reorganised slide collection and a set of X-rays. Microscopes and viewing boxes are available at all times for members.

One advantage of the new premises is that there is a comfortable coffee lounge where facilities for making coffee are available at all times. This has proved to be most popular and convenient for members.

It can be seen therefore that the facilities offered at 3 Hill Square, however limited by space, are a good deal better than those of the rather chilling if somewhat historic Melbourne Place.



The coffee lounge; informal, warm and convivial.

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# RES MEDICA

## MASS EXODUS ?

Precise figures are not available for the number of final year medical students who sat the E.C.F.M.G. examination in February. A very conservative estimate is about 30% of the total sat it, but a more probable figure is about 50%. This represents a substantial increase in the number of students who wish to work in the U.S.A. Such an increase cannot be ignored or lightly dismissed.

Students give varying reasons for application. Many feel that they wish to train in the U.S.A. at some stage and that now is the optimum time to sit the E.C.F.M.G. examinations. Some wish to 'interne' there, a few only to work there next summer. A few already intend to practise there. Most of the students also regard the February examinations as an incentive to start working for Finals early.

These applications reflect a number of factors. The attraction of travel and broadened experience is important; the lure of money may be present. But more important, it reflects dissatisfaction with haphazard British post-graduate training. It reflects also a feeling that within the N.H.S. initiative is limited, and that conformity to a very uniform pattern of medical life is demanded.

If the 'drain' of medical graduates to the U.S.A. is to be reduced, and those that have gone enticed back, there should be immediate changes in post-graduate medical education along the lines discussed by Sir George Pickering and others. There should also be an imaginative review of the N.H.S. in the light of nearly twenty years of functioning, and also in the light of health services in other countries.