

RES MEDICA

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The Society

Abstract

Office-bearers for the 230th session

Public Business

Private Business

Revision of Laws

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be exerted? A weekly 'recurring' prescription requiring a weekly 'cancelling' signature from the pharmacist would limit the number of tablets issued at one time and incur no extra work for the GP. The wider use of emetic charged barbiturates might be a worthy investment of the extra cost and more widespread dealing with the dangers of storing old tablets etc. would undoubtedly help. Some measures

might be more time consuming for the GP, in that he, as the 'family doctor' has the opportunity to warn of the potential dangers of these drugs; put tablets into the custody of another member of the patient's family when necessary, and deal more thoroughly with psychiatric problems. But it remains the responsibility of the medical profession to consider priorities when discussing this problem.

THE SOCIETY

Office-bearers for the 230th session will be as follows:

Senior President
M. H. KAUFMAN

1st Junior President
R. J. NIXON

2nd Junior President
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3rd Junior President
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Private Business—J. B. IRVING
House—Miss N. BAKER
Library—M. F. MACNICOL
Museum—J. WALLWORK
Dinner—R. J. NIXON

The Society's first year in Hill Square has been extremely successful in both Public and Private business.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

We have again been fortunate in having many distinguished guest speakers to address us. These included Professor F. J. Gillingham, Dr. W. I. Card, Dr. J. D. Roberston and Dr. Cicely Williams. Guest of honour at the President's dinner was Sir Dugald Baird whose address on some of the more amusing aspects of his career provided one of the highlights of the year. To these, as to all our other guests, we extend once more our thanks and appreciation.

PRIVATE BUSINESS

The Private Business meetings have been described as the most important activity of the Society: this may or may not be true, but certainly they provide an opportunity for every member to be active in discussion. The value of this is twofold; it encourages members to learn to express their ideas in a more confident manner in public, and it is a stimulus to a wider interest in the art and science of medicine.

The meetings of the past session were organised with this in mind. The majority of the meetings were introduced by a brief talk by a member and this was taken as the topic for discussion: topics ranged from "Prematurity" to "Exercise" and included many instructive clinical presentations. In each term two speakers were invited. In the first term Mr. J. Chalmers spoke on "Bone Growth" and Dr. R. A. Cumming on "The Blood Transfusion Service"; and in the second term Dr. M. Gaze spoke on "Micro-electrode Recording From The Human Brain" and Professor D. Whitteridge gave "Some Recollections Of Sir Charles Sherrington".

Essentially, however, Private Business meetings are what members make them: the more members that attend, the more members contribute, the more valuable are the meetings.

REVISION OF LAWS

The Society's Laws have again undergone extensive revision by a committee set up for the purpose. The changes are concerned mainly with technicalities related to the election of office-bearers. One welcome innovation, however, means that members may now entertain guests in the coffee lounge at any time.