

RES MEDICA

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The Contributors

Abstract

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possible and desirable, covering a longer period, and would take the form of pinpointing the "heavy" wards, i.e. those wards contributing a significantly higher case load than the expected rate for the city. Subsequently, analysis could be carried out on the distribution within these wards, hence relating the sources of infection to social factors which seem to be the most important. For this, a parallel investigation of housing conditions, employment and social class structure, along with a study of the psychological make-up of the referred cases would be required. All these aspects

must be considered before any headway can be made in the control of venereal diseases.

K. J. GILL and J. D. M. GOULD

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THE CONTRIBUTORS

PROFESSOR RONALD GIRDWOOD is head of the University Department of Therapeutics at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. He is an authority on haematological and malabsorptive conditions and his article on the investigation of blood disorders, of which the second part appears in this issue of RES MEDICA, is expertly rendered.

DR. CLIFFORD MAWDSLEY is a neurologist of great acumen with consultant responsibility at both the Royal Infirmary and the Northern General Hospital. His article is light hearted in vein but makes quite clear that the writing is on the wall for the Pudderites amongst us.

DR. JOHN DAWSON is an ex-president of the Oxford University Medical Society and gained his early clinical training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He also worked under Sir Stanley Davidson and is a member of the R.C.P.E. He is conversant with medicine in Australia and the U.S.A., and we welcome his contribution to the Journal.

FRANCES MARR is a final year student at the University. For two sessions she has been a junior president of the Society, the first lady ever to hold such a post. During her final phase she was chosen for the Middlesex Hospital Exchange.

JOHN IRVING is an honours graduate in physiology. He has taken a keen interest in the affairs of the Society and has been elected first junior president for next session. His article represents a field of special interest to him.

JOHN WILD SMITH has begun final phase and his dissertation stems from his interest in motoring and accident prevention. He is vice-president of the Motoring Club and plans to spend his elective period in Birmingham Accident Hospital.

Placebology

"Medicines seem to me to be so far of service as they excite the powers of nature when languid to their usual exertions, or if they entirely fail as they supply the want of the accustomed action."

—from the dissertation presented to the Society in 1784 by R. C. Michele.