

COMMUNITY CHARITY AND PUBLIC WELFARE

ad-26-9-35
Visiting Doctor On Question of Fees

COMMUNITY'S PART

Medical charity. If it must exist, should come from the community as a whole, and not from the time and services of the profession, said Dr. R. Hughes Parry, Professor of Preventive Medicine at the Bristol University, and principal medical officer of Bristol City, in an interview in Adelaide yesterday.

Dr. Parry, who is a member of the delegation from the B.M.A. Conference in Melbourne, is accompanied by his wife, who is also a doctor. He said that he had read with interest the article which had followed the address given by Dr. Dain of Birmingham, at the B.M.A. Conference regarding doctors' fees in Australia. He was not in a position to refute Dr. Dain's statements, "from their hand, if Dr. Dain were implying that the first step to remedy the evil of high fees was to force them, he had failed to realise the true position.

One could point to many weaknesses, he said, in the practice of affairs, both in Britain and Australia. He knew of no other profession whose members are expected to distribute charity, at least in excess," said Dr. Parry. "A bar for the profession would not be expected to give without payment of the fruits of his labor, even to the charity person. This custom in the medical profession definitely holds the time at the disposal of the practitioner to earn his living, and his fees are accordingly high. This is particularly evident in the case of young consultants on the staff of our voluntary hospitals. I know, in fact, this in London, the average for a living is so hard that the best among the newly qualified cannot afford to specialise, cannot afford to live in Harley street, or to be members of the staff of a London teaching hospital.

The first step, therefore, should be to make all doctors as a community for their labors, and that community charity. If it must exist, should come from the community, as a whole, and not from the time and services of the members of the profession.

Care Of The Wage Earner

Dr. Parry said that the scheme of health insurance as it operated in Great Britain was not perfect. The general practitioner was paid for the care of the wage earner for a period of 12 months, in health or in sickness, approximately the same amount would receive in the park attendant would receive in the tips for looking after one car for less than a fortnight. The deficiency in this was made up by an increase in the number of doctors allowed on the panel list of a doctor. It was essential, that there should be included a representative from the workman's family, but it was also essential that any number of people to be selected by the doctor should be strictly limited.

Another big defect in the system—lack of systems in Britain frequently results in the doctor being called out on holidays for years at a time. Their duties were onerous, and they worked a long time from their work, said Dr. Parry. This was impossible where the doctor, working alone, stands the chance of losing his best patients.

There should also be facilities for post-graduate revision courses, so that they might keep abreast of the latest ever progressing science. This also applied to Australia.

Dr. Parry said he was truly disappointed in the position that medical medicine and public health occupied in Australia, both in regard to medical education and the matter of "organised medicine." The doctor of the future was taught by a specialist around the sick bed of a hospital or in the laboratory, and he had to practice in a very different circumstances in the home. It was no wonder that it took him years of practice before he became efficient. The "governing classes" of the medical profession in Britain had entirely failed to realise this point, and he could not see evidence that things were any better in Australia.

Maternal Welfare

So far as public health was concerned, local authorities took a much more active part in medical supervision of the mother and children in Britain

than they did in Australia, said Dr. Parry. They had realised that it was money well spent, and knew that it was far cheaper to pay a preventive staff than to build hospitals and subsidise triplely the population with a population of less than half a million, the expenditure on the medical services, excluding general services, by the local authorities was £1,000,000 a year. This included the free treatment of all tuberculosis and infectious diseases, sanitations, hospital inspection, school medical inspection, maternity and child welfare laboratories, and hospitals with about 1,200 beds for acute cases, and £1,000,000 a year expenditure justified? Twenty years ago the infant mortality rate was nearly three times as great as it was today.

Not only have we saved the lives of three infants, said Dr. Parry, "but also we have saved the bodies of thousands more from crippleddom. The conditions which used to kill little children crippled and maimed. Tuberculosis killed 50 per cent. more people in Britain 20 years ago than is the case today. There are many other examples which have simply persuaded my counsel in Britain that prevention of disease, is not only better but far cheaper than cure, and much less spectacular."

Accompanied by his wife, Dr. Parry will leave by the Comera tomorrow for Ceylon, where he will join the other members of the British medical delegation who attended the B.M.A. Conference in Melbourne.

WORLD-WIDE EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Many Leaders Invited To Australia

A committee of educationists has been formed in Melbourne, where plans for an international conference on education, to be held in Australia during July or August, 1937, are being made. The conference will last for several weeks, and sessions will be held in Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Hobart.

The secretary of the Australian Council for Educational Research (Dr. K. Cunningham, of Melbourne), which is organising the conference, has already been engaged in much preliminary work in connection with the big meeting. The council is endeavoring to enlist the support and co-operation of the education departments, private schools, and universities throughout Australia.

Dr. Cunningham has announced that among the leading educationists of the world who have been invited to visit Australia for the conference are: General Smuts (South Africa), Lord Buxton (President of the Board of Education in England, 1924-29), Sir Michael E. Sadler (Master of University College, Oxford, from 1923 to 1924, and Vice-Chancellor of the University before that), Sir Percy Nunn (Director of the University of London Institute of Education), Professor Richard H. Tawney (Professor of Economic History, University of London), Professor Cyril Burt (Director of Psychology, University of London), Mr. Saller Davis (Professor of Education, Kent), Mr. P. E. Menzies (Director of Education, Lancashire), Professor G. H. Thomson (Professor of Education, University of Edinburgh), Dr. Cyril Norwood (President of the Council of the University of London), Professor John Dewey (Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University, U.S.A.), Mrs. E. Enzor (President New Education Society, England), Professor F. W. Hart (Professor of Education, University of California, U.S.A.).

The committee also propose to invite the following:—Dr. E. G. Malherbe (Officer in Charge National Bureau of Education, Pretoria, South Africa), Dr. J. H. Wood (Professor of Philosophy, University of Peking), Mr. Lester Educational Supervisor, Art Gallery, Toronto), Dr. I. L. Kandel (Columbia University), Young J. Kim (Boyd Lecturer in Education, Glasgow University), a speaker from Japan and one from China. A number of others have been suggested to Dr. Cunningham.

HOSPITAL BUILDING IN VICTORIA

ad-26-9-35
Big Scheme To Include Post-graduate Facilities

MELBOURNE, September 25. The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) announced tonight that the Government would embark on a comprehensive hospital rebuilding policy involving the expenditure of about £1,100,000. Finance for the projects will be provided from unemployment relief funds, and from contributions by the hospital committees. A new Melbourne hospital will be built, and country hospitals will be subsidised to the amount of £100,000. It is proposed to spread the work over several years, but about \$85,000 will be spent this year.

The new Melbourne Hospital will have accommodations for 300 beds and will cost about £750,000. The site of the present hospital in the city will be sold and the proceeds devoted to the erection of the new building.

One important result of the extension scheme is that the clinical work of the Royal College of Surgeons in Victoria will be greatly facilitated. The remodelled Prince Henry's Hospital will be affiliated with the Royal College of Surgeons in Victoria, and it will serve as a post-graduate hospital for Australia and New Zealand. It will be comparable with the post-graduate hospital recently opened in London, and it will be the only hospital providing post-graduate training for surgeons in Australia.

Attempt To Make Social Service A Profession

At a meeting held at the Y.M.C.A. on Tuesday, the committee for the Board of Social Services, formed at the meeting convened by the Lord Mayor on September 6, decided that it was desirable to have a course for social service workers, and appointed a small executive committee to draw up a curriculum, enquire how many would be likely to avail themselves of the opportunity to study, and to approach the University on the matter.

The provisional executive committee consisted of Messrs. J. T. Massey (Y.W.C.A.), R. W. Winter (Y.W.C.A.), Miss A. Mesthke (National Council of Women), Mrs. Wilcher (Women Police Department), Miss J. Beeson (Kindergarten Union), Mr. C. Badger, Mr. R. S. Coombe, S.M., Mrs. W. Kiek (Women's Non-Party Association), Miss S. Lines (Secretary).

It is hoped that, when the course has been drawn up and the University has been approached, the University will be represented on the Board of Social Services.

MR. HUGHES AT 71

ad-26-9-35
Vision of University At Canberra

CANBERRA, September 25. Seventy-one years of age today, and looking very well, Mr. W. M. Hughes spent a busy morning receiving friends and acknowledging congratulatory telegrams. He was greeted by a round of cheers from his colleagues when an enteric Cabell-Poston and replied by skipping to his place with mock playfulness.

Peace was said to be the link of no barrier day to look ahead and contemplate the wonderful future that was in store for Canberra, as Australia's capital.

Canberra—and it is not so far away, either—Canberra will be the seat of a university that will be recognized as the focal point of the culture of this continent, and here is the superb opportunity to establish a new Oriental university, including in Oriental studies and European languages. It must come, and the sooner people get busy about it the better.

Elder Scholarship To Be For Competition This Year

The Elder Scholarship, tenable at the Royal College of Music, London, will be offered for competition this year.

The present scholar is Miss Miriam Hyde, whose scholarship was extended for one year, but competitors for this year's scholarship will not be at a disadvantage as the maximum age limits have been extended for one year.

The last day of entry is October 25, and the examination will be fixed for November.

T.O.C.H. CONTACT WITH UNIVERSITY

ad-26-9-35
Start Made in Forming Wing

A development in the work of Toc H in its contact with the University was referred to by Padre Kircher in his report submitted to the annual meeting of Toc H.

He said that he was convinced that the Toc H needed to have a foundation there. This had not been easy to get, in spite of the friendliness of the authorities at the University and colleges. But a start had been made towards the formation of a University wing, which, it was hoped, would be attached to the control branch.

"This opens up great possibilities in the University work of the future," said Padre Kircher, who referred to the likely co-operation of Toc H in the formation of a University settlement.

The growth of Toc H in S.A. was reflected in the formation of seven new groups during the year, bringing the total to 50.

Vacancies for Electrical Engineers

ad-26-9-35
It was announced at the City today that the Federal Public Service Board of Commissioners had notified that applications were being called for the appointment of engineers in the Postmaster-General's Department, from university graduates in electrical engineering.

There were five posts to be filled, and the range of salary was from £353 to £479 a year. Appointments would be made at the minimum salary, and the successful candidates would make up duty in either Sydney or Melbourne.

Applicants should furnish particulars of other qualifications and experience in the form of a curriculum vitae, and forward their applications to reach the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, Melbourne, before October 17.

Rules To Vary B.M.A. Prize Revised

The rules for the B.M.A. (clinical medicine section) annual prize for the fifth and sixth year medical students at the University have been revised. The award (medical books to the value of five guineas) will be given to the student who, upon completion of his six months' term of office as medical clerk, shall be deemed most proficient in an examination of medical cases at the Adelaide Hospital.

The student who had been precluded from entering may take the examination concurrently with their examination in clinical medicine. Fifth year students must judge their entries not later than October 1.

No Age Limit For South Australian Judges

ad-26-9-35
South Australia has two judges who have reached the age limit set by the Victorian Parliament.

They are the Chief Justice (Sir George Murray), who will celebrate in England tomorrow his seventy-second birthday, and Mr. Justice Piper, who will be 70 years of age on July 25.

However, in South Australia there is no age limit for judges.

The Acting Chief Justice (Mr. Justice George Murray), who is 63 years old, Mr. Justice Richards is three years older, Mr. Justice Napier will be 58 on October 24, and Mr. Acting Justice Reed was born 43 years ago.