

News and Notes

WHO'S ASSISTANCE FOR RE-SEARCH IN TROPICAL DISEASES

The World Health Organisation is prepared to assist Pakistan in carrying out research in the field of tropical diseases. The world body has sufficient funds for this purpose.

This was indicated by Dr. Flache, Assistant Director-General, WHO when he called on CMLA's Adviser on Health, Sheikh Mohammad Rafique Akhtar.

He expressed appreciation over the priority the Government of Pakistan is giving to primary health care to the people in the country.

PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE TEACHING OF BASIC HEALTH STATISTICS

The inter-regional conference on teaching statistics to medical undergraduates, which con-

cluded here recently recommended that WHO should urge all countries to promote and encourage the teaching of basic health statistics and epidemiology to all medical students.

The conference, jointly sponsored by Pakistan Government, WHO and International Epidemiological Association, was inaugurated by President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry. The conference, which aimed at ensuring successful learning of statistics by every medical student, continued its deliberations for six days.

At its concluding session the conference approved the summary of working groups' recommendations concerning all aspects of teaching statistics to medical students.

It recommended that workshops and seminars should be organised by WHO at country, inter-country and international levels to familiarise teachers of statistics with modern educational principles and practice.

The involvement of teachers of statistics in the work of national and local health statistics services and their active participation in meetings on any aspect of health statistics, it added, will help them to identify the knowledge of statistics needed by students.

Delegates from 50 countries participated in the six day conference.

SECOND PSYCHIATRIC MOOT

Presence of a large number of delegates from UK, USA, Canada, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, India and other countries made the Second International Psychiatric moot a great success. Among the eminent psychiatrists who participated in the conference were Prof Lindford Rees, President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, England, and Dr. T.A. Baashar, WHO expert on Mental Health.

Other foreign delegates included Dr. Knud Jenson, Dr. Gamal Abdul Azeyem, Dr. Osama M. Al-Rad, Dr. Aboul Gawad, Dr. Philip Rack, Dr. Baggadis, Dr. J.S. Neiki and Dr. John S. Beard. Delegates from Pakistan Psychiatric Society's Chapters in UK, US and Canada included Dr. Arshad Hussain, Dr. Furrakh Husain, Dr. Ghaffar, Dr. Tariq Salim and Dr. Haq.

There were seven scientific sessions devoted to subjects like Anxiety, Psychiatry in General Practice, Drug Dependence, Depression and Schizophrenia, besides two sessions for free papers.

On the concluding day, Dr. S. Haroon Ahmed, Secretary General of the Society and Dr. S.H. Naqvi, Secretary, College of Family Medicine, Pakistan, formulated the recommendations, based on the discussions during the conference. Prof. Lindford Rees delivered the Quaid-e-Azam Memorial lecture on "Stress in Health and Diseases".

Certain papers on sexual disorders sparked off lively discussion. Prof Neiki from India who could not reach on the inaugural day reached in time to chair the symposium on Schizophrenia.

A large number of psychiatrists and family physicians from all over the country attended the conference.

There was also an exhibition of pharmaceutical products in which a large number of national and international pharmaceutical firms participated.

PAK DOCTOR BRINGS OUT HEALTH JOURNAL FROM LONDON

Dr. Sardar Mohammed Qureshi, who was born and educated in the West Punjab, must be one of the busiest doctors in England. In addition to running a general practice single handed he finds time to edit a magazine for doctors and is now bringing out another publication, "New Health", for Asians living in Britain.

The new magazine is published quarterly and contains articles in Hindi, Urdu, Bengali and English, with summaries in minor languages. The first issue is due in January and will run to 10,000 copies.

"The main aim of the magazine", says Dr. Qureshi, "will be to project the health and social needs and problems of the Asian community in Britain".