

# PMA BIENNIAL MEET

Pages with reference to book, From 284 To 286

The Central Council of PMA Centre met in city on October 3.

The largely-attended meeting was attended by 43 members of the Council from all the four Provinces. The Council discussed important issues including the employment and training of junior doctors and their career structure. The Council also felt that in view of meagre training facilities for specialisation, there will be shortage of trained specialists between 1980 and 1990. The Council felt that the number of jobs available with the Provincial Governments for medical graduates have already been filled even in rural areas and the production of new graduates from medical colleges will be in such a large number that the problems of their absorption will become acute.

The Council recommended that there should be expansion of jobs alongwith proper provision for professional setting including apparatus and ancilliary health care personnel for better health care of the people of Pakistan. In this regard PMA Central Council decided to submit a comprehensive memorandum to the Government of Pakistan.

The other problem, the Council discussed, was emergence of spurious medical colleges, medical schools and issuance of fake degrees specially in Punjab province resulting in sufferings to the population at the hands of unscrupulous persons who pose themselves as qualified medical practitioners. The Council also considered the failure of the administration and PMDC in dealing with these spurious colleges and practitioners.

The Council also reiterated its view point that it was wasteful thinking on the part of bureaucracy to consider the so-called integration of various systems of medicines. It was observed that there were meagre budgets for curative treatment and the medicines and equipments are not available in most of the Rural Health Centres of Pakistan.

It was further felt that the budget allocation has to be enhanced to meet the requirements of the country in health sector.

The Council also pondered over the recent villification campaign in media and public speeches of higher authorities in the country to cover up the failure of the administration in health care services.

## **AMA DELEGATES TO MEET IN SAN FRANCISCO**

The 1980 Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association will be held Dec. 7-10 in San Francisco (San Francisco Hilton Hotel).

Official call for the December meeting is published in the Oct. 3 Journal of the American Medical Association.

The 279 delegates will represent state medical associations, national medical specialty societies, resident physicians, medical students, medical schools, medical corps of the Army, Navy and Air Force, Public Health Service and Veterans Administration.

The delegates will consider a variety of proposals to govern the affairs of the AMA in 1981 and beyond.

Robert B. Hunter, M.D., of Sedro Woolley, Wash., is AMA president. Speaker of the house is William Y. Rial, M.D., of Swarthmore, Pa. Secretary-treasurer of the AMA is William S. Hotchkiss, of Norfolk, VA.

## **LEUKEMIA INCREASE NOTED IN MILITARY MEN**

An almost three-fold increase in leukemia cases among military men participating in maneuvers in Nevada during the 1957 nuclear test explosion "Smoky" is noted in a report in the Oct. 3 Journal of the American Medical Association.

Nine cases of leukemia have occurred among 3,224 men who participated in the maneuvers, says Glyn G. Caldwell, M.D., of the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta. This represents a "significant increase"

over the expected incidence of 3.5 cases, he declares.

Many details are not yet clear.

"If not a chance occurrence, the apparent excess of leukemia among Smoky participants suggests that such persons may have received more radiation than previously supposed or that low doses of radiation may be more carcinogenic than past estimates predicted," Dr. Calwell points out,

### **COFFER ENEMA TREATMENTS SAID FATALLY DANGEROUS**

Codec enemas can kill you, says a report in the October 3 Journal of the American Medical Association.

Coffee enemas are a bizarre so-called treatment for cancer and other diseases used by some unconventional practitioners, John W. Eisele, M.D., of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Seattle, says.

Dr. Eisele describes two episodes in which individuals subjected to frequent coffee enema died from the enemas themselves rather than from the conditions they were supposed to cure.

"Naturopathic therapies are increasing in popularity in the United States, and many of them rely primarily on alterations in diet. Although diet and nutrition are recognized as important adjuncts in cancer therapy, conventional medicine rejects the concept of cancer therapy relying solely on dietary changes, unlicensed practitioners of such therapy have been discouraged or prevented from practicing in the United States," he says.

Usually the unconventional therapies are harmless, even if they don't bring a cure. But the coffee enemas can be dangerous, he says. A 46-year-old woman died after treatment with coffee enemas for colitis and arthritis. The coffee enemas were given one each hour during her final days.

A 37-year-old woman who had had a mastectomy, but had refused drug therapy after surgery was given coffee enemas when her breast lump recurred. She died of an imbalance of body fluids and salts brought on by the massive enemas.

Dr. Eisele cautioned that "With the current wave of popularity of naturopathic medicine, one would expect an increase in this therapy and consequent morbidity and mortality."

### **AMA NAMES ROCK SLEYSER SCHOLARS**

The American Medical Association Education and Research Foundation (AMA-ERF) has named 12 senior medical students as the 1980 Rock Sleyster Scholars. Each student will receive a \$2,000 grant for the 1980-81 school year.

The twelve one-year scholarships, totaling \$24,000, have been awarded to the medical students on the basis of scholarship, financial need, and demonstrated interest in psychiatry, according to Hubert A. Ritter, M.D., AMA-ERF president.

Dr. Ritter said that this scholarship program was made possible by a \$380,000 bequest of the late Mrs. Clara S. Sleyster, of Shorwood, Wisconsin, a suburb of Milwaukee, establishing a memorial fund to honor her husband Rock Sleyster, M.D., President of the American Medical Association in 1939-40.

Dr. Ritter said the Rock Sleyster Memorial Fund provides that scholarships be awarded to United States citizens enrolled in AMA-approved American or Canadian medical schools that grant M.D., degrees. Each school is invited to submit one nominee annually, normally from a student about to enter his final year of the curriculum.

The nominees are evaluated by a committee of medical education working with the AMA Department of Undergraduate Medical Education.

The AMA-ERF has helped to increase the number of physicians through a number of other programs as well. The AMA-ERF has guaranteed more than 75,000 loans for students, interns and residents since 1962. These loans are valued at more than 95 million. In 1979 alone, more than \$-1 million in loans were secured through AMA-ERF programs. Deserving disadvantaged medical students, particularly those from minority groups, have received more than \$1 million in secured loans, with interest completely subsidized by the AMA-ERF during their medical school years under AMA-ERF's new pilot Student Opportunity Loan Program. The AMA-ERF programs are supported primarily by gifts

from individual physicians and the fund raising efforts of the AMA Auxiliary.

**The Rock Slyester scholars for 1980 are:**

Charles Lee Blair, 26, U. of Conn. Med. Sch. Born: Stamford, Conn.; U. of Ver-mont'66 Phi Beta Kappa. Interest: Cultural Psychiatry.

Coquilla Deborah Cross 40, Einstein .Med. Sch. Born: Corpus Christi, TX., Suffolk Univ. '76 summa cum laude. Interest: community and liaison psychiatry.

Pamela Ackerman Felder, 30, Cornell Med. Sch. Born: New York, Sarah Lawrence College '71, pre-med Columbia. Goal: child and adolescent psychiatry.

Stanley Walter Colon, 25, Washington, (St. Louis)-Born: New Britain, Conn. Fairfield Univ. '77. Career Interest: general psychiatry and public health education.

Joann Cynthia Leone, 24, Duke Med. Sch. Born: Mount Vernon, N.Y.; Williams College'77 magna cum laude, PBK. Goal: Practice individual psychotherapy and family therapy.

Pabol Roberto Proano, 25, Univ. Washington Med. Sch. Born: Spokane. Carroll College '77, maxima cum laude. Goal: psychiatrist.

Stephen Warner Siebert, 23, John Hopkins Med. Sch. Born: Chicago Heights, 111., Kalamazoo College'77 Chemistry, magna cum laude, PBK. Interest: community and social psychiatry.

Lance Bradley Steinbert, 24, Dartmouth Med. Sch. Born: Encino, California; USC with honors'78, PBK/PKP. Interest: psychiatry and child psychiatry.

Jonathan Reuel Sugarman, 26, Einstein Med. Sch. Born: Atlanta, GA., Harvard'77 cum laude. Goal: teaching and research in psychiatry.

Martin Hersch Teicher, 29, Yale Med. Sch. Born: Brokklyn, N.Y.; PhD. Psychology Johns Hopkins'77. Interest: child psychiatry and behavioural neurology.

Alexander Vuckovic, 25, Harvard Med. Sch. Born: Yugoslavia; Notre Dame'77 summa cum laude, PBK. Career Interest: Psychiatric practice and research.

Ron Kevin Wolner, 24, Albany Med. Sch. Born: Israel. Columbia'77. Goal: academic and research career.