

## News and Notes

### PMA JHELUM-CONDOLENCE MEETING

This meeting of PMA Jhelum learns with grief the sad demise of:-

1. Dr. Haqiq Mirza husband of Lady Dr. Gulshan Haqiq and uncle of Dr. Tariq Mirza died of heart failure on 27-12-77.
2. Dr. Fazal Karim Mirza father of Dr. Karamatullah Mirza died at Mecca Sharif while performing Haj.

Both were very active members of PMA Jhelum.

This meeting also prays to Almighty God to grant peace to the departed souls and patience to the bereaved families.

### PSYCHIATRIC MOOT RESOLUTIONS

The Executive Committee meeting of the Pakistan Psychiatric Society held on the 26th of February, 1978, passed the following resolutions:-

1. Resolved that the Lunacy Act of 1912 may be immediately repealed. Further resolved that in the wake of tremendous advances made in the field of psychiatry suitable law may be formulated to regulate the mentally ill offender. Further resolved that the Government may be requested to provide all the drafts evolved so far to the society regarding amendments in Lunacy Act for comments by the Society.
2. Resolved that the Central and the Provincial Government may be urged to immediately make arrangements for the training of Psychiatric Social Workers, Nurses and Clinical Psychologists at the existing centres and open new centres.
3. Resolved that facilities for Post Graduate teaching and training and related aids like Audio Visual equipment etc., should be made available at all training centres. Further resolved that all centres should be adequately staffed with Clinical Psychologists, Social Workers and other ancillary staff.
4. Resolved that curriculum of Psychology and Social Work in Colleges and Universities should be reviewed and suitably modified to suit our national requirements so that such

graduates till the manpower needs in the field of psychiatry and mental health.

5. Resolved that Family Physicians should be provided with facilities for continuing education in Psychiatry and relative fields and the College of Family Medicine should be provided with educational material and audio visual facilities.
6. Resolved that all educational institutions should have facilities for picking up the retarded child and for providing specialised training for retarded children.

### UNICEF DECLARES 1979—YEAR OF THE CHILD

The Office for Europe of the United Nations Children's Fund reported that the UN General Assembly has declared 1979 the International Year of the Child.

Unicef is the only United Nations Agency that concerns itself exclusively with the needs and problems of millions of children and adolescents throughout the world. Its programmes are financed by voluntary contributions from governments in both the industrialized and the developing regions of the world, from organizations and individuals and from funds raised through the sale of UNICEF greeting cards.

In order to cooperate with UNICEF programmes and activities and support the objectives of the International Year of the Child, doctors have been advised to use UNICEF greeting cards.

### RESEARCH AWARD FOR VIRUS DISCOVERER

Dr. Ian Holmes, Reader in the Department of Microbiology, University of Melbourne, has been awarded the David Syme Research Prize for 1977.

Dr. Holmes has an international reputation for his work on the rotavirus group, which is now accepted to be most important cause of infantile gastroenteritis.

The virus was first discovered by Dr. Holmes. Epidemiological studies in Australia quickly established that the new virus is the commonest cause of gastroenteritis in infants.

The David Syme Prize is awarded annually by the University of Melbourne for the best original research work in biology, physics, chemistry or geology produced in Australia during the previous two years. The award consists of a medal and a 250 cash prize paid from an endowment fund established in 1904.

### COLLEGE OF FAMILY MEDICINE (CFMP) RECOMMENDATIONS

The College of Family Medicine Pakistan on the occasion of the Second Psychiatric Conference made the following recommendations:-

1. Inclusion of family medicine in the undergraduate curriculum and creation of chairs of family medicine in the teaching institutions so as to orientate and motivate the undergraduates to take up the speciality of family medicine by volunteer selection rather than compulsion.
2. Facilities and incentives to be provided to family physicians for Post Graduate studies.
3. Utilization of the services of family physicians for on going Government programmes like population control, immunisation, malaria and T.B. eradication and health education programme.
4. Representation of C.F.M.P. on delegations, study tours and fellowships both within and outside the country.
5. Providing prompt N.O.C. to members of C.F.M.P. proceeding to attend international conferences and study tours.
6. Better liaison and report between the family physician general practitioner and hospital based doctors as far as referrals are concerned. This would include admissions, in hospital care and post hospital follow-up.
7. The improvement of family physician general practitioners clinics and group practices, be encouraged by the Government for better health services to the community by providing incentives by way of easy term loans, procurement of land in new townships and tax relief.
8. Recommends amendment in College of Physicians and Surgeons curriculum thereby requiring Family Physicians to go through one year's internship in spite of five years of qualification be waived to encourage post graduate studies by the in-work doctors.
9. Regular refresher courses in psychiatry in collaboration with Pakistan Psychiatric Society.