

Napt Commonwealth and Empire Health and Tuberculosis Conference

July 8th - 13th, 1952

THE DUCHESS OF KENT, President of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, has promised to attend the Association's Third Commonwealth and Empire Health and Tuberculosis Conference to be held in London from July 8th to 13th, 1952. Her Royal Highness was also present at the 1947 and 1949 Conferences organised by the NAPT, which for over 50 years has been in the forefront of the campaign for the control of tuberculosis.

The Conference is open to all interested in preventive medicine, including the medical and veterinary professions, commercial and industrial executives, nurses, social workers, health administrators, members of public authorities, regional hospital boards, etc. Although special emphasis will be laid on Commonwealth problems, the campaign against tuberculosis is world-wide, and distinguished authorities from countries all over the world will participate in the discussions and give the benefit of their experience. At the last Conference over a thousand delegates from fifty countries were present, and this year representatives from 34 countries are already expected. The countries concerned are Aden, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Eire, Fiji, France, Gambia, Germany, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Jugoslavia, Lebanon, Libya, Malaya, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Rhodesia, Nysaland, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Tanganyika, Trinidad, U.S.A.

The Minister of Health (Rt. Hon. H. F. C. Crookshank, M.P.) has promised to attend on the morning of Wednesday, July 9th, when Prevention and Care Work by Local Health Authorities, and Protective Vaccination will be discussed. The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Rt. Hon. Oliver Lyttelton, M.P.) will be present at the session on Tuberculosis in British Colonial Territories on Thursday, July 10th, and the Secretary of State for Scotland (Rt. Hon. James Stuart, M.P.) at the session on Tuberculosis—A Problem for All Peoples on Tuesday, July 8th. Other interesting discussions will be on The Social Worker and the Tuberculous Family, and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis including the ocular form of the disease, and Bovine Tuberculosis. The prevention of tuberculosis—a disease which causes much wastage of manpower—and the employment of ex-patients are two subjects which should be of special interest to industry today.

Among those who have already promised to speak are : Dr. I. L. Briggs (Northern Rhodesia), Dr. G. C. Brink (Department of Health, Ontario, Canada), Dr. V. Clausen (Vordingborg Sanatorium, Denmark), Miss E. Cockayne (Chief Nursing Officer, Ministry of Health), Dr. F. van Deirse (Chief, B.C.G. Department, Institut Pasteur, Paris), Dr. P. W. Dill-Russell (Nyasaland), Dr. Charles Hill, M.P. (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Food), Ieuan Lewis, Esq., (Public Health Department, Swansea), Dr. J. B. McDougall (World Health Organisation), Dame Dehra Parker (Minister of Health, Northern Ireland), Dr. John A. Scott (Medical Officer of Health, London County Council) and Councillor Mrs. Whittaker (Manchester).

A new feature of the Conference will be special smaller gatherings for those with particular interests, whether doctors, nurses, public health officials or social workers, at which appropriate subjects will be discussed. There will be a large Exhibition of medical and scientific interest, including art and occupational therapy sections and a mass radiography unit in action. Receptions for delegates are being held at many well-known institutions, and a large number of visits to hospitals and sanatoria have been arranged, in addition to tours of general interest.

The Midwife.

AT THE FIRST MEETING of the reconstituted Central Midwives Board, held on April 3rd, 1952, Mr. Arnold Walker, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., was elected as Chairman and Professor A. A. Moncrieff, M.D., F.R.C.P., as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

THE FOLLOWING have been appointed as members of the reconstituted Central Midwives Board for the term of three years from April 1st, 1952.

Six appointed by the Minister of Health :

- Miss G. M. Godden, O.B.E., S.R.N., S.C.M.,
Matron Hammersmith Hospital.
- Miss V. R. Shand, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.,
Supervisor of Midwives, Lancashire County Council.
- G. T. Milne, Esq.,
Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health.
- J. A. Scott, Esq., O.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer, London County Council.
- J. G. Thwaites, Esq., M.B., B.S.,
Arnold L. Walker, Esq., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.

Appointed by the Royal College of Physicians

- Professor A. A. Moncrieff, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Appointed by the Royal College of Surgeons.

- Professor A. M. Claye, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.

Appointed by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

- Victor Lack, Esq., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.

Appointed by the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

- J. M. Gibson, Esq., O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Four appointed by the Royal College of Midwives.

- Miss M. I. Farrer, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.,
Matron, St. Mary's Maternity Hospital, Croydon.
- Miss C. K. Knott, M.B.E., S.R.N., S.C.M.,
Chief Nursing Officer, Salvation Army.
- Miss E. J. Merry, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
General Superintendent, Queen's Institute of District Nursing.
- Mrs. E. Walker, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
Supervisor of Midwives, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Appointed by the County Councils Association.

- A. Elliott, Esq., M.D., D.P.H.,
County Medical Officer of Health, Kent.

Appointed by the Association of Municipal Corporations.

- Alderman Professor F. E. Tylecote, M.D., F.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

Still Fewer Babies Die

Death Rate below 30 for the First Time

FOR THE FIRST TIME the infant mortality rate for England and Wales last year fell below 30 per 1,000 related live births. The figure was 29.6, representing a total of 20,103 deaths of children under one year of age. In 1950 the rate was 30.0, which was exactly half the figure for 1941 (60.0).

This new low record is among the provisional vital statistics for 1951 published on Thursday, 24th April by the Registrar General.* Comparative rates in other countries were :—In 1951, Sweden 21, Netherlands 27, U.S.A. 29 ; in 1950, New Zealand 23, Australia 24, Canada 41, France 52, Belgium 59, Italy 64.

EXPECTATION OF LIFE

On the basis of 1950 death rates the estimated expectation

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