British Paediatric Association

Proceedings of the Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the British Paediatric Association was held at Harrogate from 23–27 April 1974.

Two hundred and fifty-six members attended.

Dr. Margaret Bell, Scottish Home and Health Department, and Dr. T. K. Whitmore, Department of Education and Science, attended as Observers.

The following were guests of the Association: Lord Boyle of Handsworth, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds; Professor S. G. Clayton, President, Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Mr. Duncan Guthrie, Director of Action Research for the Crippled Child; the Countess of Limerick, Vice-Chairman of the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths and Chairman of the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare; Dr. Donald Pinkel, Windermere Lecturer.

One hundred and seventy-one guests of members of the Association were present.

The Heinz Fellows for 1974, Dr. J. B. Famulusi (Nigeria), Dr. V. P. Kimati (Tanzania), and Dr. G. V. Vimpani (New Zealand) were present. Ten UNICEF/WHO Fellows also attended.

The Annual General Meeting of the British Paediatric Association was held on Thursday, 25 April 1974, with the President, Professor S. D. M. Court, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last meeting, which had been published in the Archives of Disease in Childhood, were received and approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS. All Officers were re-elected as follows:

President: Professor S. D. M. Court.

Honorary Treasurer: Professor Charlotte M. Anderson.

Honorary Secretary: Dr. B. M. Laurnace.

Honorary Assistant Secretaries: Dr. A. D. M. Jackson and Dr. S. R. Meadow.


Honorary Members: Mr. E. A. J. Alment, Dame Josephine Barnes, Dr. E. J. Bowby, Dr. G. Davison, Dr. G. S. Dawes, Professor I. Donald, Dr. J. W. B. Douglas, Dr. E. W. Hart, Dr. Nathalie Masse, Dr. G. H. Newns, Dr. Mia L. Kellner Pringle, Professor T. Stapleton.


The Honorary Treasurer's statement for 1973–74 was received.

The report of the Council was received and approved and is printed below.


1. OBITUARIES

The Association has suffered the loss of Dr. H. Bakwin, R. Coyte, FRCS, Dr. J. Forest Smith—Honorary Members; Dr. A. G. V. Aldridge, Dr. R. W. Brookfield, Dr. J. Thomson—Ordinary Members.

2. DISTINCTIONS

Council has noted with great pleasure the knighthood conferred on Professor Cyril Clarke, Honorary Member of the Association and President of the Royal College of Physicians.

3. COUNCIL

Membership. The following members of the Association have served on Council during 1973–74: Professor...
S. D. M. Court (President), Professor Charlotte M. Anderson (Honorary Treasurer), Dr. B. D. Bower, Dr. N. S. Clark, Dr. W. Dickson, Dr. D. M. Douglas, Professor S. Dundon, Dr. C. M. B. Field, Dr. W. M. Fyfe, Professor O. P. Gray, Dr. Eileen Hill, Dr. Janet L. P. Hunter, Dr. A. D. M. Jackson (Honorary Assistant Secretary), Dr. R. H. Jackson, Dr. B. M. Laurence (Honorary Secretary), Dr. S. R. Meadow (Honorary Assistant Secretary), Dr. C. H. Nourse, Dr. J. D. Pickup, Dr. B. W. Powell, Dr. A. Robinson, Professor C. E. Stroud, Dr. R. McL. Todd, Dr. S. Tucker, Dr. S. D. V. Weller, Dr. D. A. J. Williamson; Professor J. A. Davis, Chairman of the Academic Board (ex officio), Mr. H. H. Nixon, President of the BAPS (ex officio). Professor T. E. Oppé and Dr. F. S. W. Brimblecombe, Adviser in Child Health, DHSS, and member of the Central Health Services Council, respectively, have attended.

Observers. The Association is grateful to the following for assistance and advice both at Council meetings and in many other ways: Dr. Margaret Bell, Scottish Home and Health Department, Dr. Marie Richards, Welsh Office, Dr. Eileen Ring, Department of Health and Social Security, and Dr. T. K. Whitmore, Department of Education and Science.


4. MATTERS CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The growing membership, the energy of regional representatives, and increasing requests from government and professional organizations have produced an encouraging if demanding increase in the Association's work. The Executive Committee has met regularly to deal with immediate matters, thereby leaving Council more time to deal with matters of major policy.

The consequent need for increased secretarial help and room for visiting members and enquirers has made larger accommodation urgently necessary. We hope to procure this near to the Institute of Child Health shortly.

Academic Board. The 8th Annual Report of the Board has been received by Council.

Meeting with the Chief Medical Officer, DHSS. The CMO and his staff have received the officers and invited members of the Association for discussion of a wide range of topics during the year. At the last meeting with Sir George Godber as CMO on 25 October 1973, the Association presented him with the new illustrated edition of Toynbee's A Study of History as a token of gratitude for the friendship and courtesy he had shown to the Association during his 12 years in office. The book was signed by all the Presidents and Honorary Secretaries who had held office during this time.

5. AWARDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

James Spence Medal. Council approved the nomination of Dr. John Bowly, of the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations and lately Deputy Director of the Tavistock Clinic, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to paediatric understanding and practice.

Heinz Fellowships of the BPA. Heinz Fellowships for 1974–75 have been awarded to Dr. J. B. Famulisi (Nigeria), Dr. V. P. Kimati (Tanzania)—Fellowship 'A'; Dr. M. C. K. Chan (Singapore)—Fellowship 'B'; Dr. Corinna M. Weaver—Fellowship 'C'. Council is grateful to H. J. Heinz Company for their continued support of an important contribution to the paediatric education of established and younger teachers from Commonwealth countries and to the Nuffield Foundation for continued administrative help. It is particularly encouraging to the Association and the Overseas Committee that H. J. Heinz Company have renewed and increased their donation for a further 7 years.

6. FINANCE AND ALLIED MATTERS

The Association is grateful to the Dean and Committee of Management of the Institute of Child Health for continuing to provide office accommodation and committee facilities at 30 Guilford Street as they have done for many years and for the promise that if we obtain ampler premises we may still hold our meetings at the Institute. Our grateful thanks are also given to The Hospital for Sick Children for catering services.

The Directors of Unigate Limited have generously maintained their annual travel grant of £175 and the honorarium for the 'Windermere Lecture'.

The Association continues to benefit by a share of the profits from the sale of the Archives of Disease in Childhood.

A small Finance Committee now advises Council. Mr. Hugh Greenwood has once again generously donated £100. Council were especially delighted by a generous donation of £100 from one of our most popular and distinguished members, Sir Douglas Hubble.

7. MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The 44th Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the University of Lancaster, in April 1973. 385 members and guests attended.

Council wishes to record its appreciation of the work of the Academic Board in organizing the scientific programme of this meeting, and to thank the many members and guests who submitted papers and particularly those whose papers were presented.

In view of the reorganization of the National Health Service and within this the appointment by the DHSS, the DSS, and the Welsh Office of a special committee to review the Child Health Services, with Professor Oppé and Dr. Henry Giles as paediatric members and the President as chairman, a special general meeting was held on 14 July 1973. The subject was An Integrated Child Health Service: introductory papers were given by Professor Ross Mitchell, Dr. A. Smith, Dr. Frank Bamford, Dr. F. S. W. Brimblecombe, and Professor T. E. Oppé, and the 118 members present contributed to an informed and constructive discussion.

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Association will be held from 15–19 April 1975 at the University of York.

8. STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSOCIATION

BPA/BAPS Liaison Committee. This important
committee has met on three occasions. It has re-established its committees on ‘nursing’ and ‘accident and injury’. In view of continuing public and professional concern, Non-Accidental Injury has received special attention, and a joint statement from the Presidents of the two Associations preceded an article on the subject in the BMJ (1973), 4, 656–660.

9. Working Parties
Reports from the following have been submitted to Council:

(i) Organization of Paediatric In-Patient’s Day.
(ii) Education and Training of Pupil Midwives in the Care of the Newly Born Infant.
(iii) Organization of Medical Work in Hospitals (Cogwheel), for (a) England and Wales, (b) Scotland.

Reports on the following are being prepared:

(i) Planning of Hospital Paediatric Departments.
(ii) Infant Feeding.
(iii) Paediatric Nursing.
(iv) Dietetic Services for Children.
(v) Evidence for the Child Health Services Committee.

10. Matters Concerning Government Departments
Department of Health and Social Security. Comments on the following by Working Parties and Standing Committees have been submitted to the Department:

(i) Hospital Facilities for Children Undergoing ENT Treatment: an agreed statement by the BPA and BAOL.
(ii) Social Work Support for Health Services by Local Authorities.
(iii) Hospital Services for Children in University and Regional Referral Centres.
(iv) Organization of Paediatric In-Patient’s Day.
(v) DES/DHSS draft circular on Child Guidance.
(vi) Child Psychiatric Services.

11. Matters Still Under Consideration

(i) The development and character of the Association. Council is aware that this important matter is being considered by the regional societies.
(ii) Suitable long-term accommodation for the Association.
(iii) Paediatric staffing and training, with particular attention to the right balance between generalists and specialists.
(iv) The machinery for professional and administrative partnership in the Child Health Services of the reorganized National Health Service.
(v) Paediatric relations between Britain and her partners in the European Community.
(vi) Our responsibility for paediatrics in the developing countries.

Council is grateful to the Members who have served on Committees and Working Parties during the year, and also to those who have represented the Association on both statutory and voluntary bodies. Many individual Members have helped the Association by their advice, suggestions, and criticisms.

Council wishes to show its special appreciation of the work of the Editors of the Archives of Disease in Childhood. This is now a profitable journal in every sense and an important ambassador for British Paediatrics.

Scientific Proceedings

General Sessions

R. E. Bonham-Carter. The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London. The changing face of paediatric cardiology: heart surgery in infants’. Between May 1971 and October 1973, 108 infants were submitted to bypass surgery. There were 36 with transposition of the great arteries, 26 with total anomalous pulmonary venous drainage, 20 with ventricular septal defect, and 8 with aortic stenosis. There were also 18 miscellaneous lesions which accounted for 10 of the deaths. There were no deaths in the transpositions and ventricular septal defects and 10 deaths in the total anomalous pulmonary venous drainage group. These figures are broken down by diagnosis, age, and weight at the time of surgery, and illustrate how paediatric cardiac surgery is changing towards earlier correction, in some cases instead of palliative surgery.

R. G. Patel. The Children’s Hospital, Birmingham. ‘Coarctation of the aorta with special reference to infants’. Coarctation of the aorta accounts for 5–8% of all congenital cardiac abnormalities. When babies with coarctation of the aorta present with intractable congestive cardiac failure, there is frequently an associated cardiovascular abnormality. The response to intensive medical treatment in the past has been disappointing. Surgical treatment offers a greater chance of survival despite complications such as re-stenosis.

Between 1961 and 1972, 126 patients had an operation for coarctation of the aorta. 61 cases needed surgery during infancy. There were 12 hospital deaths—all in patients with associated cardiovascular lesions. These included persistent ductus arteriosus, ventricular septal defects, aortic stenosis, fibroelastosis, transposition of the great vessels, and Taussig-Bing malformation.

There have been 12 cases of re-stenosis among the survivors. All these patients either had preductal or juxta-ductal coarctation and were operated between 1–6 weeks after birth. Evidence of re-stenosis occurred as early as within 48 hours in 2 cases while in others it developed after several months. Lack of growth at the anastomotic site may be responsible in a few but the tendency to coarctation seems to persist in others. While re-stenosis is a common complication, it is not lethal and only 3 patients have subsequently required another operation.

There were no hospital deaths in 65 children in whom resection of coarctation was done between 1 and 14 years. There were 3 cases of re-stenosis in this group, usually related to narrowing at the site of insertion of teflon graft.