

and conditions of service. This has subsequently been sent to all Directors of Hospital Services, the Secretary of Health, and other appropriate authorities.

During the past eighteen months the Transvaal branch of the Hospital Group has been exceptionally well attended and, apart from the general meetings, the Group decided to have discussions on various subjects and the following topics of interest were discussed: Surgical chests, medical chests, frozen shoulders, back pain and for the next meeting amputations. These have been very helpful and stimulating as they encouraged very lively discussion and exchange of ideas. In 1977 the Transvaal branch are going to embark on a survey of the treatment of hemiplegia. This will be carried on throughout all the physiotherapy departments in the Transvaal.

Following the success of the Transvaal branch, why is it that no other branches are prepared to take up this satisfying challenge?

BOOK REVIEW

Rehabilitation Medicine—The Management of Physical Disabilities, by P. J. R. Nichols, M.A., D.M. (Oxon.), F.R.C.P., D.Phys. Med. (London). Supplied by Butterworth & Co. (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd., P.O. Box 792, Durban. Cost R16,95 plus R0,15 delivery.

In this book the rehabilitation approach to common clinical problems is discussed and the contribution of Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists is considered.

The author deals more with the moderately disabled person and compares him with the patient severely disabled.

The book is directed particularly to the General Practitioner as they are so frequently co-ordinators in the Home Rehabilitation Team.

Chapter I deals with Organization of Rehabilitation Services and discusses Rehabilitation in every facet, laying stress on the importance of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, industrial rehabilitation, and social services.

In Chapter II physiotherapy and the various modalities used by physiotherapists are discussed.

Chapter III deals with occupational therapy in much the same manner.

These general information chapters are followed by much more detailed discussions and demonstrations. Rheumatoid Arthritis is used as an example to demonstrate Total Rehabilitation. The full treatment of the patient is described, commencing with an assessment of his general condition.

Having used this condition as an example the author goes on to the various other crippling conditions including backache, neck and shoulder pain, osteo-arthritis, injuries, strokes and amputee problems, chest and heart conditions etc., and deals with each in turn relating to the original example of Rheumatoid Arthritis. Suggestions for physiotherapy and occupational therapy are made where the need calls for it.

This is a very practical book and will be of interest to both the physiotherapist in General Practice and the General Practitioner or family doctor.

A good index makes reference most convenient and each chapter is supplied with well documented notes and Bibliography and References.

The "Total Care of the Patient" is the main aim of this volume and this has been clearly emphasised and described in a most practical manner and related to many of the more common conditions met with in General Practice.

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY OF PHYSIOTHERAPY TWELTH NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING DURBAN, MAY 10th, 11th and 12th, 1977

The Natal Coastal Branch of the South African Society of Physiotherapy is hosting the National Council meeting on the 10th, 11th and 12th May, 1977. This will be preceded by a stimulating and topical Post Registration Course.

The title of this one-day course is "Modern Trauma and the Physiotherapist". Subjects will include:

1. Massive trauma,
2. High velocity injuries,
3. Burns,
4. Shock,
5. Blast trauma,
6. Mental and physical rehabilitation.

The venue is the Edenroc Hotel, where provisional accommodation has been arranged.

Costs will be kept to a minimum and will depend on the final numbers.

Further details will be circularized to the branches.

TEN COLOURFUL BIRDS ON NEW EASTER STAMPS

The new series of Easter Stamps, which the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa will release during its Easter Stamp Fund campaign next year, depict ten different South African birds in full colour. These striking stamps will undoubtedly help many more people, particularly schoolchildren, to become better acquainted with this country's bird wealth by identifying some of the most beautiful specimens.

Sets of the new stamps, which will be sold at only two cents per stamp, are available in strips of 10 and in sheets of 50 or 100 stamps. Every set is supplied together with information strips containing interesting facts about each of the birds in the series.

The following birds appear on the stamps: Crested barbet, black-shouldered kite, bishop-bird, masked weaver, Cape glossy starling, lilac-breasted roller, black-headed oriole, greater double-collared sunbird, Cape robin and the African hoopoe.

Several of the birds are fairly common throughout the country in gardens and urban areas, but a few are found only in certain parts.

Although the information accompanying the stamps in strip form has been cryptically compiled, the description of each bird's peculiarities, together with the colourful stamps, will stimulate the interest of more people in the types of birds encountered in their garden during different seasons.

The new Easter Stamps will be released early in 1977, throughout the Republic and South West Africa, for sale to the general public in support of the Easter Stamp Fund. Although the campaign will officially commence on 1st March, 1977 stamps will be released before the time during February in some areas because of local circumstances. The campaign is the sole fund raising effort of the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa.

The organisers of the campaign, all over the country, urgently need assistance with the distribution and sale of Easter Stamps during these difficult times. They will be most grateful to readers and other interested supporters for any help received before or during the campaign. The addresses and telephone numbers of the nine regional Easter Stamp Fund organisers appear on page 11 of this issue. Your sympathetic co-operation is vital in helping cripples of all ages and races to help themselves.

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