

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REGULAR JOURNAL FEATURES

SIR — Our Corps Journal is presumably meant to interest and inform all professional members of the RAMC be they hospital specialists or general practitioners. With this in mind, may I suggest the introduction of a regular feature in the form of a short review by the relevant specialist of particular problematic and contentious medical subjects? This could be in the format of 'The problem of . . .' or 'Update in . . .' or 'The modern management of . . .' With continued growth of specialisation and super-specialisation the individual easily loses touch with progress in other fields but his own. Such a feature would inform, interest and hopefully galvanise your readers, if only to air controversies in your correspondence columns!

I am, etc,

N E CETTI

Queen Eliabeth Military Hospital,
Stadium Road,
Woolwich, London SE18 6XN.
22 August 1980

THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE MOTTO

SIR — I yield to none in my appreciation of Colonel Vella's contributions to our Journal over the years, but as you have lodged this letter with the Society for Army Historical Research I must acknowledge an earlier attribution. On my arrival as Commandant in 1977, and looking at the lecturer's dais, I was somewhat embarrassed at my own ignorance of the origins of the motto, so I turned to a particular member of the audience at that College lecture. As I had expected he produced the reference at once out of his head, giving the preceding lines both in the Greek and in elegant instant translation. I refer of course to Lieutenant Colonel Bruce Simpson, MA, FRCP, RAMC.

The ease with which the information was produced may well have obscured the need to suggest to him that he should put the matter on public record.

I am, etc,

H A J REAY

Director of Medical Services,
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British Forces Post Office 40
14 November 1980

(Assistant Editor's Note: My attention has also been drawn by Lieutenant Colonel G O Cowan (Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital) who confirms the above information contained in the letter by Major General Reay, and adds the interesting item that our College Motto is also that of Scotland's senior University (St Andrews) founded by the Bull of Pope Benedict XIII in 1411.

Therefore this clue was followed up further and the University's Authorities capped the news by stating that "the first reference to the university's motto is in 1773, when it was minuted that it had been affixed to a coat of arms in the library. The motto was never formally registered, however, which may account for the fact that it is shared by the Royal Army Medical College".

Publication by Officers 1980

The following list of publications by Officers, or Late, of the RAMC, which have appeared other than in the Journal of the RAMC.

ABRAHAM, P (*et al*). Evoked potentials and contingent negative variation during treatment of multiple sclerosis with spinal cord stimulation. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1980; **43**: 15-24.

DIGNAN, A P (*et al*). "Casualty overload" from the Southall riots. *Br Med J* 1980; **281**: 975.

MURRAY, D P J Asymptomatic gonorrhoea in the male. *Practitioner* 1980; **224**: 1141-1143.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

FRCS	Maj R T LeMesurier, MA, BM, BCh, DO, RAMC.
FRCPsych	Lt Col P Abraham, MA, MRCS, LRCP, MRCPsych, DTM&H RAMC.
FRCR	Lt Col C R Bradshaw, MB, BS, FFR, RAMC. Major D K Grieve, MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP, DMRD, RAMC.
MRCP(UK)	Capt A J Lyon, MA, MB, ChB, RAMC.
MRCP(I)	Maj G E Ratcliffe, MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP, RAMC.
DA	Capt N F Strowbridge, MB, BS, RAMC.