

MISCELLANY

THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU

Membership in the United States Committee of The World Medical Association offers you the opportunity to play a direct role in the world-wide affairs of organized medicine. In these times, when mutual understanding seems to be the only road to peace, the universal language of medicine can help mend the ills of the body politic, just as it is mending the ills of the individual.

The 5,000 leaders of American medicine who comprise the U. S. Committee of W.M.A. recognize that it is just as important for them to support medicine's international society as it is to be members of their county, state and national medical organizations.

W.M.A. has formulated an International Code of Medical Ethics and a modified Hippocratic Oath defining the ideals and obligations of physicians. W.M.A. has also set forth the basic principles that should protect the rights and status of doctors in all governmental social security schemes. And W.M.A. has done more than give lip service to these codes and principles. It is working day and night around the world to protect the profession wherever it is threatened by political interference that would prevent the doctor from serving his patients according to his scientific knowledge and his conscience. Recently, W.M.A. has defended the rights of the medical profession against attempts by various non-medical organizations to draft a code of international medical law.

American physicians are singularly fortunate in having met their social and economic problems by voluntary action, turning back the threat of political domination. Our favored position only emphasizes our responsibility to lead the fight to preserve the principles of good medical practice for our colleagues abroad, and to help them restore these principles wherever they have been compromised.

Doctors the world over hold the same basic ideals and cherish the same hopes for medicine. W.M.A. has provided solidarity and strength by bringing physicians together for the solution of their common problems.

A tangible benefit of membership in the U. S. Committee is the privilege of attending the Annual Assemblies of The World Medical Association as an Official Observer. The Eleventh General Assembly was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from September 29 to October 5, 1957. A large number of U. S. Committee members were present. Many of them combined attendance at the Assembly with a tour of European centers of medical interest.

The W.M.A. Secretariat assists members of the U. S. Committee in making arrangements for foreign travel, providing information on foreign medical meetings and introductions to medical leaders and teachers abroad, and promoting to the utmost the international friendships and contacts of physicians.

Membership in the U. S. Committee also brings you the *World Medical Journal*, published every other month by W.M.A. This magazine, edited by Dr. Austin Smith (Editor of J.A.M.A.), brings you world-wide information on medical progress and problems in the 53 countries whose national medical associations comprise the membership of W.M.A.

W.M.A. is speaking for you and working for your interests in its contacts with other world organizations concerned with health or medical care, such as the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization (I.L.O.), the International Social Security Association (I.S.S.A.) and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Some other activities and accomplishments of W.M.A. of interest to every American physician are:

Sponsorship of the First World Conference on Medical Education in London in 1953 and the second such conference to be held in Chicago in 1959;

Promotion of international exchanges of medical students and teachers, lectures and clinical teaching by traveling teams of physicians;

Development of an international program to improve occupational health services;

Promotion of a freer flow of proven therapeutic agents throughout the world by urging removal of unwarranted trade restrictions and arbitrary licensing requirements in certain countries;

Promotion of medical research, by promoting national pharmacopoeias and defending the rights of individuals discovering new drugs and agents to name them;

Development of an international emblem (in conference with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Committee on Military Medicine and Pharmacy) for identification and protection of medical units and civilian physicians engaged in civil defense in war time; and promulgation of regulations stating the rights and duties of such physicians;

Formulation of plans for a central repository of medical credentials, to enable qualified physicians of every country to file proof of their identity and qualifications with a safe and authoritative international source;

Conducting useful studies of many subjects of world-wide interest to physicians, such as post-graduate medical education, hospital facilities, cult practices, medical advertising, and effects of social security legislation on medical practice.

The World Medical Association brings you solid benefits as well as the satisfaction of taking part in the international affairs of our profession. You can help make its work more effective by joining the U. S. Committee. The nominal dues of Active Membership in the U. S. Committee are only \$10.00 each year. The Committee is seeking to double its present membership of 5,000 American physicians this year. The objectives of W.M.A. are your objectives. It is your voice in world medical affairs. We invite you to add your name and your voice in guiding and strengthening this great organization.

LOUIS H. BAUER, M.D.

Secretary General

The World Medical Association

RESIDENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE IN ANESTHESIOLOGY

In March, 1957 the A.M.A. Council on Medical Education and Hospitals and the American Board of Anesthesiology established a Residency Review Committee in Anesthesiology. At the present time 18 of the 19 specialty boards and the American Academy of General Practice have established Residency Review Committees. The committee in anesthesiology is composed of three members representing and appointed by the Council, three members representing and appointed by the American Board of Anesthesiology, and the Secretary of the committee who is a member of the Council staff. Appointments will be for three years after the initial phase, and a member may be reappointed.

Meetings of the committee will be held at approximate six month intervals. The members of the committee representing the A.M.A. Council are as follows: Dr. John Adriani, Dr. William E. Bageant and Dr. Richard H. Barrett. The representatives of the Board serving on this committee are: Dr. Stuart C. Cullen, Dr. Albert Faulconer and Dr. Forrest E. Leffingwell. Dr. Willard V. Thompson, Assistant Secretary of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals is the Secretary of the committee and all pertinent correspondence should be sent directly to him.