

EDITORIAL

BY the time this issue of *Physiotherapy* is received by members, the Council Meeting, to be held the last weekend of May, will be over.

In a forthcoming journal proceedings of this meeting will be reported.

Representatives from all branches will gather in Pretoria to discuss the business of the South African Society of Physiotherapy and to formulate future policies of the Society. Many points of great importance have to be dealt with this year. Each branch will send in their resolutions with instructions to their delegates about the presentation of these resolutions, also all branch delegates will be previously instructed by their branches on how to vote on other branches' resolutions.

These delegates will bring with them the ideas and demands of their respective branches as well as some of their individual branch problems on which advice is sought.

The delegates, on instruction from their Branches will have to vote for a new Central Executive Committee which includes the Office Bearers, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary General Secretary, Honorary General Treasurer, Registrar, Editor, as well as six other members.

It is suggested that a ruling be passed whereby only a proportion of the existing committee including office bearers will be allowed to retire at the end of each term of office, thus leaving some experienced personnel to lead and advise the new members. In rotation these members will then retire leaving the newer members to step into the positions of full responsibility and to take over the running of the Society for a period until they too, hand over to younger members. In this way continuity of work and policy will be maintained, but new blood and new ideas will always be available.

It is hoped, incidentally, that this scheme will take effect too, in Branch Executive Committees to ensure continuity of work there.

In the S.A.S.P. there has been a general reluctance on the part of the younger members to assume any position of responsibility in the Society, especially with the South African trainees.

This is to be deplored because only by supporting your Society can you hope to receive any support from it. Surely some of those who have been trained in the country should now be willing to help build up the Society and to learn something about the organisation as a whole and what goes on behind scenes. Criticism is always forthcoming, but help is much less readily given.

Charity begins at home, and those younger members who have the good of physiotherapy at heart, should start by attending Branch meetings regularly, and be prepared to serve on the Branch Executive Council in time, and finally, after perhaps being elected delegate to a Council meeting, be prepared to serve on the Central Executive Committee.

We all look forward to a year of successful negotiating and advancement and will surely wish the incoming Committee—Good Luck.

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