

Contents:

Editorial	Page 2
Sit-Walking	Page 3
Conference	Page 7
Proprioceptive Facilitation Therapy for Paralysis	Page 8
General	Page 12
American Physical Therapy Conference	Page 13
Branch News	Page 14
Personal	Page 15
Book Review	Page 15

EDITORIAL

THIS issue of the Journal goes to press as the Society prepares for its Biennial Conference to be held this year in Kimberley on October 9th, 10th, and 11th, with the Northern Cape Branch acting as host. The Conference prompts one to reflect on the progress made by the Society in the past two years, and on the position of physiotherapy and those who practise it in South Africa.

Reports from Hospitals and responsible persons overseas make us realise it is not boasting to say that the standard of the two trainings recognised by the South African Medical & Dental Council in this country viz., Pretoria General Hospital and the University of the Witwatersrand, compares favourably with that of any other country. It is gratifying to hear this statement endorsed by members of our own Society who have been overseas recently, and have made enquiries about the progress of graduates from South Africa. Next year it is hoped that training for physiotherapy teachers will be available and this in turn will mean that further training schools can be established in other parts of the Union. It is the Society's responsibility to see that the present standard of training is maintained.

Due largely to the efforts of the Society and its individual members, both the medical profession and the public are being educated to recognise and employ only those with registrable qualifications. This work progresses slowly but very surely, and it is incumbent upon each of us to help in every way possible to maintain a high ethical

and professional standard in our work to prove the value of our qualifications.

Physiotherapy is being prescribed for more and more patients as evidenced by the increase in the number of treatments given at Hospitals, the growth in their Departments and the provision of facilities for physiotherapy, at institutions where none existed previously. The views expressed at this year's Medical Congress, the theme of which was Rehabilitation, show clearly that the medical profession realises the part that physiotherapy has to play with other medical workers in the treatment of the sick and injured.

It is gratifying that the Branches of the Society have had a busy two years, and many younger members have joined as very active members. Our advice as a national body is sought and respected by many individuals and organisations. It has been a continuous and hard fought struggle to attain our present status and thanks must go to those who have worked so hard for it over the past years. They have been, and are, hindered by the apathy of so many members. The next two years will bring many more achievements by the Society for the benefit of its members, and perhaps they in turn will take the opportunity to show a little more appreciation of what has been done and enthusiasm and co-operation so that their Society can be truly representative of them, and in a even stronger position when the next Conference is held.