EDITORIAL

The last issue of this Journal, Volume 9 Number 3, went to press just before the start of the International Sports Medicine Course at Loughborough, organised by B.A.S.M. for F.I.M.S. 70 people attended the full course, and some half dozen attended part of it. About 50 doctors, being eligible for enrolment, joined F.I.M.S. as Associates; the previous designation of Fellows now being discontinued, as it implied to some parity with established Fellowships of the Royal Colleges. Loughborough College of Education was a good venue for such a course, as demonstration teams were available, the Human Biology Laboratories of the University were nearby, recreational sports facilities were laid on (but somewhat spoiled by a breakdown in the swimming-pool heating) the rooms were adequate, and the food, especially for the final Dinner and Guest Night, excellent. We hope that, with added experience of running courses, some of the snags will be eliminated, and questionnaires are being sent to all who attended to get a feed-back for planning for the future.

Section 63 approval was given for general practitioners’ seniority and post-graduate training. Some hospital authorities gave their staff study leave and expenses, but this cannot be guaranteed for all future courses and for all regions. We have been asked both by F.I.M.S. and by the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, to make this course an annual event, and the 1976 course is in an early planning stage. Further details shall be published as soon as they are available.

Arrangements are also being made for a colloquium on Human Performance Laboratories and techniques of fitness assessment. This will probably take place in North West England, and again details shall be published. Other items planned for 1976 are an A.G.M. earlier in the year than we have had recently; a joint session with the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports Medicine on techniques and indications for strapping in sports injuries; discussions are taking place both in Yorkshire and in the North East (Northumberland, Durham, Tyne & Wear and Cleveland) to try to arrange local meetings, resuscitate or found area organisations in districts remote from London and the Midlands. For all these events, details shall be given as soon as they are available (and we hope to add some in Stop Press perhaps inside the back cover of this journal).

The Annual General Meeting for 1974 took place at the Royal Society of Medicine on November 11th, 1975, and the reports from Hon. Secretary, Treasurer and Scottish Area are included together with the accounts already circulated with BJSM 9:3. An interesting morning session was run by the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports Medicine — A.C.P.S.M. — and was most instructive at the “grass-roots” level, — I learned a lot that I was not taught when an orthopaedic registrar. There is certainly a need for such meetings, perhaps best arranged locally, that will instruct those that have to do the work in sports medicine, as well as the more esoteric topics covered in special symposia necessary for the development of the academic discipline of sports medicine.

The present policy of the Journal regarding submission of all manuscripts to the Editorial Board has caused a little delay in publication, but it is hoped that properly refereed and corrected articles can only reflect favourably upon both the author and the journal. There is still a dearth of articles of quality upon clinical subjects, and we welcome short communications in the form of case reports or annotations concerning new techniques of investigation and treatment. As well as these, we also welcome longer clinical articles of original work.

All 1976 subscriptions are due on January 1st. Many members have still not settled the underpaid balance for 1975, as the subscription was raised to £5 from £3 on January 1st 1975. Individual notices have been sent to all in arrears, but as B.A.S.M. has no paid secretariat, the sending out of notices to people several times a year is very time consuming, and diverts effort that could be applied elsewhere to more advantage. Scottish members are asked to note that the present Treasurer for that area is Mrs. Elizabeth Snodgrass, 54 Iain Road, Bearsden, Glasgow.

All other subscriptions, including external subscriptions for the British Journal of Sports Medicine only — “Library Subscribers”, and for the F.I.M.S. Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness, should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer of B.A.S.M. Dr. H. E. Robson, 39 Linkfield Road, Mountsorrel, LOUGHBOROUGH, Leics.

* * * * *

The postman has just delivered two letters; 1. the bill from Loughborough College of Education for the Sports Medicine Course. 2. A bank statement for the Course (No. 2) account. The Editor, with the Treasurer’s hat on, is delighted to announce that the credit in the bank exceeds the bill considerably, so B.A.S.M. ends the year, for once, in credit. We still need the subscriptions arrears for 1975 as well as subscriptions for 1976.