

Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

f.1

PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

TELEPHONE: 01-580 2127
TELEGRAMS: ANOPHELES, LONDON

MANSON HOUSE,
26 PORTLAND PLACE,
LONDON, W1N 4EY

From the President
C.E. Gordon Smith, .CB, MD, FRCP, FRCPath.

Dear Fellow,

I am sure that, in these times of inflation, you will not be surprised to hear that your subscription has been raised to £15. A concessionary rate of £10 has been fixed for registered full-time students up to a maximum of three years.

Despite the most stringent economies, the Society's unavoidable expenditure will this year have exceeded its income by £7000. This will have reduced the remaining liquid assets of the Society to less than £5000 - a quite unsafe level against which to face unforeseeable expenses. The Society's sole significant asset is now its property in Portland Place and Council is closely examining how to improve our income from this source. There may, therefore, be some relief from further increases in subscription, provided that inflation comes under control - little can, however, be expected immediately, as we are tied by leases. Our position would, of course, be very much sounder if all Fellows paid their subscriptions promptly - there are many in arrears and I appeal to you, in the interests of a safe future for our very distinguished Society, to pay promptly.

Meantime, a subscription of £15 will do little more than enable us to continue at our present level of activity. A subscription of £20 was recommended by Council, but reduced to £15 by a very small general meeting of Fellows. I am anxious to initiate the wide-ranging proposals listed below, which I believe are essential to rejuvenate and extend the Society's activities and this will be difficult with a subscription as low as £15. I hope, therefore, that those of you who can afford more than £15 will add a donation to your subscription to help us over the next year or two.

However, by no means all the news is bad. As you may have read in my Presidential Address (Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 1976, 70, No.1), I propose to undertake a vigorous review of the Society's activities and future during my term of office. Council already has the following proposals under consideration: