Voting for the Academy Council takes place soon. This type of activity very seldom excites anybody. Do not claim afterwards that you are not represented on the august body that will take over the bridge of our sturdy new vessel.

Someone said, while commenting ironically about the involvement of patients in their own health, that 'patients acquire the doctoring they deserve'. If you deserve to have the old order foisted upon you once again you should sit back complacently while nominations and voting takes place.

Sixteen members will be elected for the first term of office. This first council must leave its stamp on the Academy and general practice for many years to come and the importance of the individuals chosen to serve on it cannot be overestimated.

In the past the Faculty of General Practice of the College has sometimes been accused of being controlled by a closed brotherhood. If this accusation is ever levelled at the Academy it can certainly not be the fault of the steering committee who have tried to ensure that an equitable regional representation is attained.