DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS INCREASE SHARPLY

The table below indicates a significant increase in the number of disciplinary cases processed by the Board in 1974 compared to preceding years. The total number of accusations pending at the beginning of this year is double that of last year. The average number of pending investigations in 1974 increased by 214 cases compared to 1973 and the total number of accusations filed in 1974 was 93 compared to 70 in 1973. This upward trend is continuing this year and is not expected to decrease.

Assemblyman William Campbell, of Los Angeles, will introduce legislation to increase the number of members on District Review Committees to handle the increasing case loads. A public member will also be added to each DRC under this proposed legislation.

(continued on back page)

REVIEW SESSION - Members of the District III Review Committee are shown at a recent disciplinary hearing. Left to right, are: J.O. Gibson, M.D., W. Nilsen, Jr., M.D., Chairman; Gilbert E. Elmore, State hearing officer; Herlan O. Loyd, M.D., and George Snively, M.D.

BOARD REPORTS ON MALPRACTICE

The Board of Medical Examiners is required under the Business and Professions Code to submit reports to the Legislature on all malpractice settlements and judgments reported by insurance companies. The statistical summary below reflects the information supplied to the Board over the past four years.

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., called a special session of the legislature on May 19 to study the current malpractice insurance situation and propose legislation to ease the crisis. Approximately 25 bills have been introduced during this session dealing with professional liability.

Financial Awards Double

Malpractice claims settlements have been steadily increasing since 1971. Only 503 settlements were awarded in 1971 compared to 869 in 1974. Financial awards for all settlements have more than doubled in the last four years. Total claims in 1971 amounted to $15,169,935.00 compared to $32,819,024.72 in 1974.

Insurance company claims have re-
BOARD BUSINESS
DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS — JANUARY 25, 1975 - MARCH 21, 1975

Donald K. Blake, M.D., Pomona, CA - Suspended 60 days; stayed; 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 3-3-75

Everett Wallace DeLong, M.D., Beverly Hills, CA - All right, title and interest in restoration of license as a physician and surgeon in CA revoked 2-28-75

Milton E. Denmark, M.D., San Jose, CA - Revoked ........................... 3-12-75

Terry Alan Dichter, M.D., Beverly Hills, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 3-3-75

Edward H. Fradkin, Los Angeles, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 3-4-75

William Ernest Gray, Jr., M.D., Davis, CA - Revoked .......................... 3-10-75

Donald W. Grimes, M.D., Bellingham, WA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation .......................................................... 1-29-75

John Shriver Gwynne, M.D., Santa Ana, CA - Revoked .......................... 3-3-75

Edwin Dallas Hersh, M.D., Huntington Beach, CA - Revoked .................. 3-14-75

William Harry Perloff, M.D., Santa Barbara, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions (surrender BND certificate) 3-3-75

Percy A. Rivers, M.D., Oroville, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 2-27-75

Richard L. Rubottom, M.D., Beverly Hills, CA - Revoked, stayed, 10 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 2-19-75

Charles Richard Scott, M.D., Carmichael, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 3-12-75

Frank B. Wisner, M.D., San Diego, CA - Revoked, stayed, 5 yrs. probation with terms and conditions ........................................ 3-3-75

Marion Eugene Yandell, M.D., Lawndale, CA - Revoked, stayed for 5 yrs. with 5 yrs. probation on condition no provisions of the Medical Practice Act of Calif. be violated ........................................ 2-27-75

Application for Restoration of Revoked Certificate Denied — 1; Application for Termination of Probation Granted — 1.

MEDICAL BOARD ISSUES
M ALPRACTICE STATISTICS (continued from front page)

M.D. Claims Increase
Claims by licensed M.D.'s have risen $16,176,810.22 since 1971 and the total number of claims has increased by 370 cases since 1971. Statistics for M.D. claims for 1974 show an increase of $7,959,553.86 over the preceding year and 208 more claims were awarded.

Podiatry Claims Decrease
The total number of claims for podiatrists has decreased since 1971 and 1972. Only one case was awarded in 1973 ($75,000.00) and 1974 ($6,000.00). The number of institutional claims have also decreased since 1972 but financial awards have increased. In 1971, eight claims were awarded totalling $193,000.00. However, in 1974 six claims were awarded amounting to $1,696,779.50.

MEETING AND EXAMINATION DATES
June and July 1975

District Review Committee I, July 8, 9, 10 ........................................ San Francisco

District Review Committee II, July 15, 16, and 17 ......................... Los Angeles

District Review Committee V, June 23, 24, 25 ........................... Los Angeles

Physical Therapy Written Examination, June 27 ......................... Los Angeles

Podiatry Meeting, July 25 ..................................................... Los Angeles

Speech Pathology & Audiology Committee Meeting, July 31 ............ Los Angeles

Eligible applicants will be notified several weeks before every examination about the date, days, time and place where each test will be held.

INCREASE NOTED IN DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
(continued from front page)

District Review Committees hear disciplinary cases, which require medical knowledge, and recommend proposed decisions to the Board. Each Committee represents a separate geographical area of the state. Members of DRC's are appointed by the Governor and serve four-year terms.