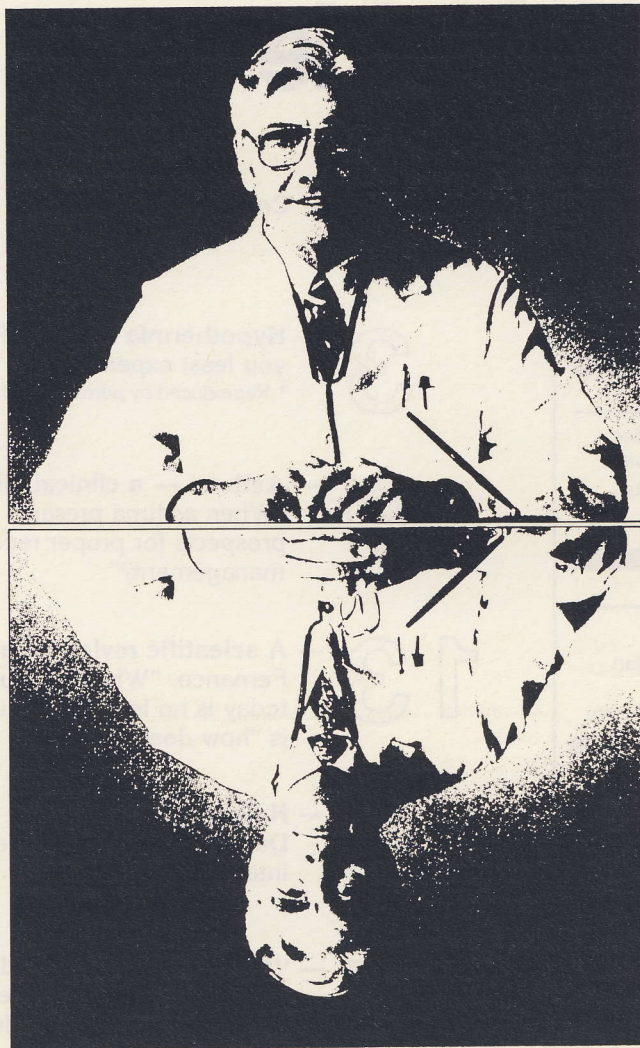

Comment Komentaar

by Dr George Davie



GP pride?

A few weeks ago the postman brought me an unsolicited gift from a well known pharmaceutical house. The gift was a tape purporting to be value to General Practitioners in the Republic.

I had, until the arrival of the hand-out, been basking in the status that General Practice was beginning to enjoy in our country. The compiler of the tape dispelled this feeling very effectively.

All the material used was taken from overseas publications. This in

itself was disconcerting, but when the local editors turned out to be two prominent specialists whose track record in the promotion of General Practice was, to say the least, unremarkable, my complacency was totally removed.

I suppose it does one no harm to be put in one's place now and again. The pharmaceutical house in question, however, can expect few good vibes in return.

Did the people concerned really not know that there are, at last coun-

ting, at least six professors of Family Medicine in our country in a similar number of departments of Family Practice at the various medical schools?

Pharmaceutical houses have always enjoyed my respect for doing their homework well. Was this particular house not aware of the prominent General Practitioners who serve on the SA Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care and the National GP Group of MASA? □