

scan speed. This is reported in the National Radiological Protection Board's *Annual Research and Development Report 1978*. The research summaries report continued progress in investigations on the metabolism and effects of radioactive materials incorporated in the body, including metabolism of plutonium, biological studies on the thorium-uranium fuel cycle, and studies on the mortality of American nuclear workers. Copies are distributed by HMSO, price £6.

International Society and Federation of Cardiology

Cardiac metabolism is the subject of the latest scientific council to be formed by the International Society and Federation of Cardiology. The ISFC, which has been formed from two separate bodies concerned with scientific work and with fund raising, has an intensive programme of scientific and educational activities. The scientific councils organise multinational research studies, teaching seminars, and postgraduate courses on many aspects of cardiology. Task forces are to examine the current thinking about drugs that inhibit platelet function and other urgent issues. In collaboration with the World Health Organisation, the ISFC is preparing a manual on the control of hypertension for general practitioners and has been working on international classifications and definitions. Teaching and research fellowships are also planned. In public education the ISFC is particularly emphasising the cardiovascular dangers of cigarette smoking, holding workshops and conferences on the subject this year and next. Further information may be obtained from the ISFC Geneva Office, PO Box 117, 1211 Geneva 12, Switzerland.

Gowers prize essay on epilepsy

A triennial award, sponsored by the British branch of the International League Against Epilepsy, is offered for an essay on any aspect of epilepsy, clinical, physiological, or social. This year two prizes are offered—one of £100 to medical graduates under the age of 35 years and one of £50 to medical students, either clinical or preclinical. Intending authors should submit, before 30 November, the title and a brief summary of the scope of their essay to Dr J Laidlaw (Beechwood, Bridge of Weir Road, Kilmacoll, Renfrewshire PA13 4NN), from whom further information may be obtained. Essays must be submitted by 30 June 1980.

COMING EVENTS

International symposium on clinical biochemistry—10 October, Riyadh. Details from Dr H G Penman, Military Hospital, PO Box 7897, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Society of Community Medicine—Symposium "Modern trends in child health," 19 November, London. Details from Miss W A Webb, 28 Portland Place, London W1N 4DE. (Tel 01-580 2731.)

Neuroradiology 1980—Symposium, 1-3 February, San Francisco. Details from Department of Radiology, University of California, Room 396 M, San Francisco, California 94143, USA. (Tel (415) 666-4127 or 666-1988.)

WHO International Agency for Research on Cancer—International course on the epidemiological approach to occupational cancer, 17-21 March 1980, Lyon. Details from the chief of research training and liaison of the agency, 150 cours Albert Thomas, 69372 Lyon Cedex 2, France. Closing date for applications 10 January 1980.

12th International Diagnostic Course in Davos—23-29 March 1980, Davos, Switzerland. Details from IDKD 12, PO Box 2132, CH 8028 Zurich.

10th Anniversary of the Greek Human Tissue Bank—Special international conference on "Tissue grafts in reconstructive surgery," 25-30 May, Athens. Details from Dr Paul Karatzas, NRC Demokritos, Human Tissue Bank, Aghia Paraskevi, Athens, Greece. (Tel (01) 6513 111 ext 344.)

11th International Meeting on Vascular Pathology—26-29 May 1980, Coimbra, Portugal. Details from Mario Blanco Peres, A C Boehringer Mannheim, 116-3 Gonçalo Cristóvão, 4000 Porto, Portugal.

International symposium "Infections in the immunocompromised host"—1-5 June 1980, Veldhoven, Netherlands. Details from the symposium secretariat, PO Box 252, 6710 BG Ede, Netherlands.

7th International Symposium on Mass Spectrometry in Biochemistry, Medicine, and Environmental Research, 16-18 June 1980, Milan. Details from Dr Alberto Frigerio, Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Via Eritrea 62, 20157 Milan, Italy. (Tel 35 54 546.)

Forest Group Hospitals Medical Education and Research Trust—Details and copies of the September-December programme are now available from the Medical Education Centre, Whips Cross Hospital, London E11 1NR. (Tel 01-539 5522.)

Castle Priory College—Details and copies of the programme of courses from autumn 1979 to spring 1980 are now available from the college, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0HE. (Tel 0491 37551.)

King's Fund College and Centre—Details of the courses and conferences are now available from the college, 2 Palace Court, London W2 4HS, tel 01-229 9361, and from the centre, 126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NF, tel 01-267 6111.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institutions concerned.

Monday, 17 September

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 12.30 pm, Professor J Corrie: Cervical sutures.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm, The Rt Hon the Lord Smith of Marlow: Surgery of stones and carcinoma of the biliary tract.*

Tuesday, 18 September

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—Professor Miles Irving: Intestinal fistulae.*

Wednesday, 19 September

INSTITUTE OF ORTHOPAEDICS—6 pm, Dr R Snook: Disaster planning. 7 pm, Mr A Graham Apley: Principles of fracture treatment.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—5 pm, Arris and Gale lecture by Mr G F Domisse: The arteries, arterioles and capillaries of the spinal cord of man and the sub-human primate. 6.30 pm, Dr S Liversedge: Parenteral nutrition.*

Thursday, 20 September

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm, Professor L H Blumgart: Abdominal injury.*

Friday, 21 September

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm, Professor H A F Dudley: The metabolic response to surgery.*

BMA NOTICES

Central Meetings

SEPTEMBER

19 Wed Central Ethical Committee, 10 am.
19 Wed Private Practice Committee, 10.30 am.
20 Thurs General Medical Services Committee, 10 am.
20 Thurs General Purposes Subcommittee (CCHMS), 10 am.
20 Thurs Negotiating Subcommittee (CCHMS), 2 pm.
25 Tues Scottish Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 10.45 am.
26 Wed Council, 10 am.
28 Fri Ophthalmic Group Committee, 2.15 pm.

OCTOBER

4 Thurs Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 10 am.
4 Thurs General Purposes Subcommittee (GMSC), 10.30 am.

Division Meetings

Members proposing to attend meetings marked * are asked to notify in advance the honorary secretary concerned.

Bury—At Bury General Hospital, Tuesday, 18 September, 8.15 pm, general meeting.

Instructions to authors

The following are the minimum requirements for manuscripts submitted for publication.

A stamped addressed envelope or an international reply coupon *must* accompany the manuscript if acknowledgment of its receipt is desired.

(1) **Typing** should be on one side of the paper, with double or triple spacing between the lines and 5-cm margins at the top and left-hand side of the sheet.

(2) **Two copies** (or preferably three) should be submitted.

(3) **Spelling** should conform to that of *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary*.

(4) **References** must be set out in the style used in the *BMJ*, and their accuracy verified before the manuscript is submitted.

(5) **SI units** are used for scientific measurements. In the text they should be followed by traditional units in parentheses. In tables and illustrations values are given only in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the International System of Units, and some useful conversion factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977).

(6) **Authors** should give their names and initials, their current appointments, and not more than two degrees or diplomas. Each author must sign the covering letter as evidence of consent to publication.

(7) **Letters to the Editor** submitted for publication must be signed personally by all the authors.

(8) **Acknowledgments** will *not* be sent unless a stamped addressed envelope or an international reply coupon is enclosed.

(9) **Detailed instructions** are given in the *BMJ* dated 6 January 1979 (p 6).

Croydon—At Mayday Hospital, Tuesday, 18 September, 8 pm, buffet supper followed by business meeting.

Harrogate—At Harrogate General Hospital, Monday, 17 September, 8 pm, meeting, speaker Dr Francis Pigott.

Oldham—At Oldham and District General Hospital, Wednesday, 19 September, 7 for 7.30 pm, informal dinner, speaker Tom Segar: "Home nursing and DIY surgery for 'house plants.'"

Regional Meetings

Mersey Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At Liverpool Medical Institute, Monday, 17 September, 8 pm.

Mersey Regional Hospital Junior Staff Committee—At Liverpool Medical Institute, Wednesday, 19 September, 8 pm.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

LONDON

MD—Juliet E Compston, R W I Cooke, D A H Lee, R B S Packard, S M Shalet, J H Tripp.
MS—R W Hoile, P A E Hurst, Leah M South.

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