

well as funds from private local sources. The basis of the work is to make "locomotor profiles" of patients to help decide on most suitable surgical treatment, ongoing physiotherapy, and, finally, mechanical aids. These children are then to be reassessed at regular intervals. Eventually it is hoped to provide a service of this type throughout the country.

Orthopaedic Engineering at Oxford

The Department of Health and Social Security has provided funds for an orthopaedic engineering centre to be built near Mary Marlborough Lodge at the Nuffield Centre, Headington. The purpose of the new department is to make it possible for engineers to work in close contact with clinicians and patients, so that patients can benefit from improved equipment resulting from better application of modern technology. The director will be Mr. J. D. Harris, who led the team responsible for developing the pacemaker battery which received the Queen's Award for industry in 1973.

Combined Bio-engineering Research at Liverpool

The University of Liverpool has announced the setting up of a research laboratory jointly with I.C.I. in the university's bio-engineering unit. The objective of the research is development of new synthetic materials for prostheses, and will include study of the relationship between the physical and chemical properties of such materials and their biological acceptability. The laboratory staff will consist of four full time scientists from I.C.I. and up to six part time doctors from the university medical school, and I.C.I. is to provide £100,000 for its support. The project is to run for an initial period of three years, and any discoveries of clinical value will be developed and ultimately marketed by I.C.I.

Simulated "Bush" Hospital

A mud hut laboratory with the minimum and least expensive diagnostic equipment has been set up in Liverpool for the School of Tropical Medicine so that students planning to work in underdeveloped countries can train under realistic conditions. At present the hut laboratory is an extra part of the course, but it is hoped to integrate it into the standard curriculum.

Preventing Drug Abuse

The United Nations European Social Development Programme is organizing a three-week travelling seminar on "Community Involvement in Programmes for Prevention of Drug Abuse." The seminar, which will be in English, starts on 1 April 1975 in Stockholm, moves to Amsterdam a week later, and concludes in London 13-20 April. About 20 experts are to be selected by the United Nations, which will pay travel costs and per diem allowances. They will visit the three countries to observe how community attitudes help or hinder efforts to prevent drug abuse. Public and private institutions will be visited and meetings held with individuals and groups working with these problems locally.

People with a specialized knowledge in the field and interested in taking part in the seminars should contact Miss B. Gove, International Relations Division 3, Department of Health and Social Security, Room 410, 10 John Adam Street, London WC2H 6HD (tel. 01-217 4116). Last date for completed application forms to be accepted is 20 December 1974.

Kidney Donor Card

A revised kidney donor card has been produced by the Department of Health and Social Security. The new card carries the signed agreement for organ removal of the holder's next of kin, which it is hoped will simplify the donor procedure and save time. Two million new cards have been printed and are to be distributed to the health authorities. The older type cards, of which 4m. have been distributed, retain their validity. The number of kidney transplants recorded in Great Britain so far this year (up to 18 November) was 454, compared with a total of 274 in the whole of 1970.

Commonwealth Scholarships

The Association of Commonwealth Universities has just issued the second edition of its *Guide*. The purpose is to provide basic information about sources of financial aid for graduates who wish to do postgraduate study or research at a Commonwealth university outside their own country. Scholarships, fellowships, grants, assistantships, and demonstratorships are described and all subjects of study or research are covered in which there are university facilities. An appendix gives details of awards tenable in certain government laboratories and other non-university centres of advanced training or research. *Scholarships Guide for Commonwealth Postgraduate Students 1975-77*. Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF. £2.50 post free in U.K.

Trainees in Community Medicine

A Scottish group of trainees in community medicine has been formed for educational and representation purposes. The group's definition of a trainee is someone working for a specialist post and a diploma of the Faculty.

Those wishing to join or other interested persons or groups elsewhere in Britain are asked to contact the secretary, Dr. J. G. Paterson, Department of Community Medicine, Usher Institute Warrender Park Road, Edinburgh EH9 1DW.

Research Grants

The Mason Medical Research Foundation is inviting applications for grants of between £250 and £1,000 from registered medical practitioners. The Foundation is a subsidiary of a long-established medical charity—the Mason Medical Research Trust—and it proposes to try to provide prompt initial support for new medical research ventures. Inquiries should be made to the Secretary of the Foundation, Mr. D. A. Michell, F.C.A., 62 Park View, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4LN.

COMING EVENTS

Nuffield Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Oxford University.—Series of lectures, the second half of a postgraduate course, "Basic Sciences of the Musculoskeletal System," Fridays 6.30 p.m., and Saturday mornings 8.30 a.m., 10 January-15 March, at Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford. Members of medical and allied professions are invited. Details from the centre. (Tel. Oxford 64811.)

Institute of Urology.—Day symposium, "Infertility in the Male," 11 January. For details see advertisement on page ix.

"Medical Mass Spectrometry."—Meeting, 15 January, 2 p.m., University College Hospital Medical School, organized by vacuum group of Institute of Physics. Details from Professor J. H. Leck, Liverpool University, Brownlow Hill, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX. (Tel. 051-709 6022.)

Institute of Orthopaedics.—Instructional course, "Spinal Disorders," Wednesdays, 15 January-26 March. Details of this and of other courses, including some at Stanmore, Middx, are obtainable from the postgraduate secretary, Institute of Orthopaedics, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, 234 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AD. (Tel. 01-387 5070.)

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

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

Tuesday, 17 December

ST. CHARLES'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.—8.45 p.m., Dr. D. Krikler: Why do E.C.G.'s?

Wednesday, 18 December

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. R. De Raad (Netherlands): Value of Intra-arterial Scintigraphy in Diagnosis of Strokes and Tumours. ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—2 p.m., Professor D. Crowther: Immunotherapy for Acute Leukaemia.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

CAMBRIDGE

Appointment.—Mr. B. D. Pentlow (lecturer in surgery).

LONDON

M.D.—E. M. Essien, O. M. Edwards.

M.S.—G. Neil-Dwyer.

Ph.D.—In the Faculty of Medicine: S. G. B. Amey, S. M. Ardehali, Julia C. Buckingham, R. K. F. Clark, J. M. England, M. El Z. M. Hagga, S. I. Katz, S. F. Kuku, L. Serrano-Vega, Margaret J. Thompson.

M.Phil.—In the Faculty of Medicine: R. J. Lunnon.

Correction

Bites by Saw-scaled or Carpet Viper

We regret that the name of Dr. L. D. Ormerod was misspelt in the paper under this title (23 November, p. 437).

Notice to Authors

When the original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated.

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