Royal Society of Medicine News

Council Matters
Royal Society of Medicine Foundation Inc.
At their meeting in January, Council received a report on the work during 1971 of the Royal Society of Medicine Foundation, Inc. in New York. They recalled the success of the Anglo-American Conference on Medical Care, held at the Society's headquarters in April 1971, which was the first to be organized jointly by the Society and the Foundation. It was hoped that such conferences would be a regular feature and that they could be held annually, in Great Britain and in the USA alternately. The Foundation has continued its policy of awarding Travelling Fellowships to selected American doctors, enabling them to visit Britain for periods of up to three months to study in areas of their own choosing; and it was reported that, since the Fellowship programme was established in 1969, 18 American doctors had visited Britain through this scheme and 8 were expected during 1972.

Club Associates
Members will recall that Council approved the election as Club Associates of wives or husbands of Fellows who wish to use the Club services at Wimpole Street and Chandos House. In the first instance Council limited the numbers to 500, but because of the popularity of this arrangement and because the present numbers can easily be exceeded without detriment to the Members, this limit has been raised and the number of Club Associates may now be increased to 1,000. Wives or husbands of Fellows who wish to make application for Club Associateship should write to the Administrative Secretary at the Society.

Travel Brokers
Members may like to be reminded that the firm of Patric, Stuart, de Mussenden Ltd, of 55a Cambridge Street, London SW1, have recently been appointed air travel brokers for the Society for a period not exceeding one year in the first instance. The brokers advise that under their plan, which is available only to home-based members, bookings can be made not only for groups such as those travelling to Section conferences overseas, but also for individuals. Journeys will be arranged mainly on scheduled flights at prices well below the standard economy fare. Members wishing to avail themselves of these services should make contact with the travel brokers, and it is hoped that this arrangement will prove to be of value to members of the Society and their families.

Administrative Changes
Substantial administrative changes have recently been approved by Council. The Central Office has been abolished and a Conference Office has been established. The work which was previously undertaken by the Central Office has now been largely diverted so that it becomes the responsibility of the Administrative and General Services Secretaries. Members may like to know, particularly, that all applications for rooms, including bedrooms at the Domus Medica, should now be made to the General Services Secretary. The new Conference Office will become the focal point for the arrangement of all national and international conferences organized by the Society, and will be managed by Mrs F M Paxton as Conference Secretary.

Lectures and Awards
Council have approved the following awards recommended by the Sections, for the 1971/72 session unless otherwise stated:

Section of Dermatology
The Dowling Lectureship during the 1971/72 session to Dr C F H Vickers of Liverpool Royal Infirmary, and during the 1972/73 session to Dr Roy Summerly of the North Staffordshire Hospital Centre.

Section of Laryngology
The W J Harrison Prize to Mr Douglas Ranger of the Middlesex Hospital, for his work on reconstruction surgery for carcinoma of the post-cricoid region.

Section of Ophthalmology
A Travelling Fellowship of £200 to Mr A J Bron of the Institute of Ophthalmology.

The Ophthalmology Prize to Mr R C Tripathi, also of the Institute of Ophthalmology, in recognition of the publication of his two papers - 'Mechanism of the Aqueous Outflow across the Trabecular Wall of Schlemm's Canal' and 'Ultrastructure of the Exit Pathway of the Aqueous in Lower Mammals' (1971, Experimental Eye Research, 11, 116; 12, 311).
Section of Otology
The Norman Gamble Prize to Mr T J Wilmot of Tyrone County Hospital, for his contribution to the investigation and treatment of vestibular disorders.

The Norman Gamble Fund Research Grant to Mr Denzil N Brooks of the Manchester Audiology Clinic, for contributions to advances in audiology techniques.

The Harrison Prize to Mr John Ballantyne of the Royal Free Hospital, for his contribution to otology during the past two years.

Section of Physical Medicine
The Samuel Hyde Lectureship to Dr D R L Newton of Middlesbrough General Hospital.

Section of Surgery
Pharmacia Prize to Mr A J Strong of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, for his essay on 'Cardiac Performance in Surgical Shock'.

Section of Urology
The Winsbury-White Lectureship to Professor Jean Hamburger of Paris.

New Year Honours
The New Year Honours list published on 1 January contained the names of the following members of the Society:

KCVO
James Cecil Hogg
Formerly consultant ear, nose and throat surgeon, St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London
Peter James Kerley
Emeritus consultant, X-ray Department, Westminster Hospital, London

KBE (Military)
Air Marshal Ernest Shaw Sidey

Knights Bachelor
Geoffrey Hirst Bateman
Lately surgeon, Ear, Nose and Throat Department, St Thomas’s Hospital, London
Martin Roth
Professor of Psychological Medicine, University of Newcastle upon Tyne

CBE (Civil)
George Kenneth McKee
Senior orthopaedic surgeon, East Anglian Regional Hospital Board

OBE (Civil)
William Donald Victor Burton
For services to British interests and to the British community in Assam
Ivan Reginald Clout
General medical practitioner, Crawley, Sussex
Basil Crandles Smith Slater
General medical practitioner, Harrow, Middlesex

OBE (Military)
Surgeon Commander Francis Michael Kinsman

Christmas Lectures for Young People
Early in January the Society again held a series of lectures suitable for those between the ages of 13 and 19 years, which were all well attended; the subjects and speakers were:

Eye Disease and the Artist
Mr Patrick Trevor-Roper

Underwater Exploration and Photography
Dr Horace E Dobbs

Everest
Dr Peter Steele

Book reviews

Actinomycosis
by Marcell Bronner DMD and Max Bronner DMD
2nd ed pp xix + 355 illustrated £8
Bristol: John Wright 1971

This is an unusual book which has evidently filled a need, since it has reappeared in a new and enlarged edition less than two years after the first. The greater part of the book consists of reprinted case reports and papers relating to actinomycosis from the world literature. In the remainder, the authors review such subjects as the systematics of the oral microflora, the epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of actinomycosis. Inevitably, in so compendious a collection, the material varies greatly in age and credibility and we are not always told very clearly what we should believe. There are certainly some novel views. ‘With regard to virus diseases, antibiotic treatment cannot replace anti-serum treatment in the toxæmias, such as tetanus. . .’ ‘In 1922 the late Professor Fleming and Professor Chain studied various natural products including the