

Livingstone). *Diagnostic Electron Microscopy of Tumours* by Feroze N Ghadially (Butterworths). *Jenner's Smallpox Vaccine* by Derrick Baxby (Heinemann Educational Books). *Occupational Lung Disorders* (2nd edition) by W Raymond Parkes (Butterworths). *Practical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* (2nd edition) by Peter B Cotton and Christopher B Williams (Blackwell Scientific Publications). The winner was *Occupational Lung Disorders* and the runner up *Practical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

For those who would like to enter for the prize next year the conditions of entry are as follows. (1) The books must have been published during the calendar year immediately before the year in which the award is made. (2) A book by up to three joint authors may be entered. (3) Second and subsequent editions of textbooks are eligible only if they have been substantially rewritten so as to constitute a new work. (4) "Medical textbook" is defined as a book intended for doctors, medical students, or the caring professions. Further information about the prize may be obtained from Philippa MacLiesh, secretary of the medical writers group, The Society of Authors, 84 Drayton Gardens, London SW10 9SB.

Unique chair at King's College London

King's College London has established a chair in medical law and ethics—the first of its kind in Britain. The new professor is Ian McColl Kennedy, who took up his post on 1 October.

Medical student electives

The Commonwealth Foundation invites applications for bursaries from senior medical students of approved medical schools in the Commonwealth, to help them to spend their elective period in a Commonwealth country other than their own, between 1 June 1984 and 31 May 1985. Six further bursaries are being offered by the Edward Boyle Memorial Trust. Applications for both sets of bursaries

should be submitted in the first instance to the dean of the candidate's medical school. Deans may then recommend up to two candidates from each medical school.

Psychosocial oncology group

A multidisciplinary group dealing with the psychological aspects of cancer has recently been set up. One of the aims of the group is to set up a register of people who are concerned with patients with cancer, whether through their research or clinical contact, who have a specific interest in social and psychological factors affecting patients. Further information may be obtained from Dr Maggie Watson, Faith Courtauld Unit, The Rayne Institute, 123 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9NU.

Bulk sweetening agents

Several new food sweeteners are to be introduced in the near future. These include three new bulk sweetening agents, and so the full list of such agents contained in food will be sorbitol, mannitol, xylitol, hydrogenated glucose syrup, and isomalt. These substances are polyhydric alcohols and may cause flatulence and diarrhoea. Some food manufacturers are voluntarily labelling their products, informing the consumer of their laxative potential. The Committee on Toxicity has, however, recommended that all doctors and pharmacists should be aware that patients complaining of flatulence and diarrhoea may have consumed an unusual amount of bulk sweeteners in their food.

Queen Charlotte's Hospital

Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital and the Chelsea Hospital for Women are to be managed by the Hammersmith Special Health Authority, which is to be renamed the Hammersmith and Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority. (Until now Queen Charlotte's has been run by its own board of

governors.) The Minister for Health, Mr Kenneth Clarke, said, "This decision on management does not in itself affect service provision. There is, however, an urgent need for a strategic review of obstetric services in west London. I am asking the North West Thames Regional Health Authority to take the lead in developing a new strategy in consultation with the special health authority and the district health authorities concerned."

The Anglo-French Medical Society

The Anglo-French Medical Society was formed in May 1983 to promote cooperation on medical science and research projects and exchange of information and to aid the exchange of medical students, doctors, and their families. Details of membership may be obtained from Dr M R B Cottrill, The Moat House, Lymm Hall, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 0AJ.

Christmas lecture for young people

The Institute of Ophthalmology has arranged a lecture for 12 to 18 year olds by Professor Robert Weale entitled "A scientific sleuth eyes art," on 3 January at 3 pm. Tickets are obtainable from the dean's office of the institute, 17-25 Cayton Street, London EC1V 9AT, telephone 01-387 9621.

People in the news

Professor Alan E H Emery has had the title of professor emeritus conferred by the University of Edinburgh. He has now been appointed university fellow and will continue his work in the medical school.

Correction

Professor Sir Melville Arnott has had the degree of DSc (Honoris Causa) conferred on him by the Chinese University of Hong Kong, not the University of Hong Kong (19 November, p 1561).

RESEARCH GRANTS

Professor N C Nevin, department of medical genetics, Queen's University of Belfast: **£2568** additional grant by the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain and Northern Ireland towards cost of computer equipment for research on the mapping of proteins of tissues in patients with muscular dystrophy.

British Heart Foundation

Professor I Isherwood, University of Manchester: **£25 226** for research on the application of nuclear magnetic resonance in heart disease.

Professor Fergus Macartney, Hospital for Sick Children, London: **£54 526** for research on congenital heart disease.

Professor Gustav Born, King's College London: **£55 756** for his study of the factors controlling the accumulation of fats in the linings of arteries.

Dr John Anderson and **Dr Philip Hasleton** (University of Manchester): **£41 399** for an investigation of the defects that may predispose to weakening and stretching of the walls of major arteries.

Dr B K Park and **Professor A M Breckenridge**, University of Liverpool: **£37 651** for a study of factors influencing patients' responses to treatment with anticoagulants.

Dr Gurtej Dhoot and **Professor V Perry**, University of Birmingham: **£32 838** for use of new monoclonal antibody techniques for the identification of different cell types in heart muscle.

Dr Roger Hainsworth, University of Leeds: **£54 510** for an investigation of the nerve reflexes that help regulate the circulation.

Dr Meryl Knapp and **Dr D Mary**, University of Leeds: **£17 080** for a study of the connection between the heart and changes in output of urine by the kidney.

Dr M Barnes, Strangeways Research Laboratory,

Cambridge: **£31 785** for a study of the factors that influence the clumping together of the platelets.

Dr B Whiting and **Dr S Hillis**, University of Glasgow: **£22 829** for their research into the actions of different drugs used to treat dangerous arrhythmias.

Dr D de Bono, University of Edinburgh: **£16 414** for laboratory studies of changes in the stickiness and other features of cells in the lining of blood vessels.

Professor D C Flenley, City Hospital, Edinburgh: **£2829** for an investigation of breathing patterns, awake and asleep, in patients with asthma and bronchitis and associated heart disease.

Dr K Bruckdorfer, Royal Free Hospital Medical School: **£30 998** for studies of the effects on platelets of the cells lining the walls of blood vessels.

Dr Sheila Haworth, Institute of Child Health, London: **£35 117** for investigation using electron microscopy and other techniques of the effects on the blood vessels in the lungs of the raised pressures that occur in some forms of congenital heart disease.

Dr R Davies and **Dr J D H Slater**, Whittington and Middlesex Hospitals, London: **£13 711** for studies of hormonal influences on the blood pressure of women during normal and abnormal pregnancy.

Professor A Maseri, Royal Postgraduate Medical School: **£6674** for his investigation of patients with chest pain by detailed analysis, beat to beat, of the pumping action of the heart in conjunction with the electrocardiograph.

Dr Kim Fox, National Heart Hospital: **£16 750** for research into the use of the electrocardiograph in predicting the severity of coronary heart disease.

Dr Margaret Branthwaite, Brompton Hospital: **£13 163** for research using an electric monitor to study any brain injury that may occur during open heart surgery.

Dr W McKenna, Royal Postgraduate Medical School: **£18 260** for research into the causes of sudden death in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Dr Anthony Strong, University of Newcastle upon

Tyne: **£9511** for studies of the blood flow in the brain after a stroke.

Professor R Mollan, Queen's University of Belfast: **£15 380** for research into improved methods of recognising thrombosis in the leg veins of patients who have had total hip replacement.

Dr P Gallagher, University of Southampton: **£1680** for a study of arterial disease.

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

Dr G V Sherbet, cancer research unit: **£36 325** by the North of England Cancer Research Campaign for research on the metastatic incapacity of malignant gliomas.

Dr David Bates, department of neurology: **£65 145** by the Multiple Sclerosis Society for a controlled study of the effect of hyperbaric oxygen treatment on patients with multiple sclerosis.

COMING EVENTS

Second British Laser Conference—Incorporating the first annual conference of the British Laser Association, 15 December, London. Details from Mr J A S Carruth FRCS, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Royal South Hants Hospital, Graham Road, Southampton SO9 4PE. (Tel Southampton 34228 ext 493.)

Royal College of General Practitioners—The North and West London Faculty Communications Committee has arranged an MRCPG examination study day for overseas graduates, 11 February, London. Details from the course secretary Mrs Sue Smith, Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London SW7 1PU. (Tel 01-581 3232.)

British Association for Service to the Elderly London Group—Details and copies of the programme of meetings to 14 March 1984 are available from the