

**Nitrazepam**

The Committee on Safety of Drugs has sent the following letter about nitrazepam to the Health Ministers:

It has come to the attention of the Committee that unidentified tablets of a drug purporting to be nitrazepam have been distributed in the United Kingdom.

The Committee has assessed the substance known as nitrazepam but only in the preparations marketed as Mogadon by Roche Products Limited. Tablets of nitrazepam supplied by Roche Products Limited are flat and white in colour. They bear the imprint Roche with two semi-circles on one side and a single score on the other. The unidentified tablets are similar in appearance but do not carry the name Roche.

The Committee is concerned that patients may be treated with the unidentified preparation since it has not been submitted for its scrutiny and the Committee is therefore unable to pass any opinion on the safety of this preparation.

The Committee recommends to the Ministers that doctors and pharmacists should be advised accordingly.

The Health Ministers advise pharmacists, dispensing doctors, and hospitals not to use any preparation of nitrazepam other than Mogadon until confirmation has been received of the approval of the Committee.

**Award to Naturalist**

The Linnean Society has awarded the H. H. Bloomer medal and prize for 1969 to Dr. T. D. V. SWINSCOW, deputy editor of the *British Medical Journal*. The award is given annually to "an amateur naturalist in recognition of important contributions to biological knowledge." Dr. Swinscow has made many studies of lichens.

**People in the News**

► LORD PLATT is to have the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws conferred on him by Manchester University on Founder's Day (14 May).

**Recent Publications**

*How Not to Get a Coronary*, by Dr. A. L. WINGFIELD, a Family Doctor booklet, price 1s. 6d.

**Coming Events**

**Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.**—One-day postgraduate symposium, 30 April, London. Application forms for tickets (£3 3s. including refreshments), and programmes are obtainable from the Secretary of the College.

**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.

**Monday, 24 March**

**FOREST MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—At Whipps Cross Hospital, London E., 2 p.m., course in child psychiatry, session 5: Motor and Perceptual Development.

**INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Combined staff consultation clinical meeting.

**INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Professor G. H. Satchell (Sydney): Circulatory Reflexes in Fish.

**INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.**—At Chelsea Hospital for Women, (1) 11.15 a.m., discussion by Mr. W. Pollard, Mr. J. S. Staffurth, Mr. W. R. Winterton: Treatment of Carcinoma of the Endometrium; (2) 2 p.m., Dr. K. D. Bagshawe: Immunology and Malignant Disease. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London, S.W.)

**INSTITUTION OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY OFFICERS.**—At Congress Hall, T.U.C., Congress House, Great Russell Street, London W.C., 2.15 p.m., Alexander Redgrave memorial lecture by Dr. R. Murray: Accident Prevention and Occupational Health.

**MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF GENERAL PRACTICE.**—At Large Anatomy Theatre, Manchester University Medical School, 8.30 p.m., Mr. D. Summerfield: The G.P. and the Coroner.

**MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF ODONTOLOGY.**—At Lecture Room, Dental Hospital, 5.30 p.m., Dr. M. Garretts: Focal Sepsis.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.**—5 p.m., Frederick Price lecture by Professor M. Finland (Harvard): Changing Ecology of Serious Infections as Related to Antibacterial Therapy.

**Tuesday, 25 March**

**B.B.C. 2 TELEVISION.**—1.15 p.m., Medicine Today: Breathlessness. (Prepared in collaboration with A.S.M.E.)

**FOREST MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—At Whipps Cross Hospital, London E., 1 p.m., clinical meeting.

**HULL AND EAST RIDING POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Hull Royal Infirmary, 8 p.m., Dr. M. Cochran: Bone Disease of Renal Failure.

**INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.**—At Hammersmith Hospital, (1) 2 p.m., Professor N. Morris: Placenta as an Endocrine Gland; (2) 3 p.m., Professor P. Polani: Significance of Chromosome Abnormalities in the Human Subject—II. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London S.W.)

**KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—5.30 p.m., Dr. D. A. Warrell: Sudor Anglicus in Abyssinia.

**LONDON MEDICAL GROUP.**—At Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, 5.45 p.m., Dr. I. Jakobovits: Morality in Medicine—Old or New?

**NEATH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Neath General Hospital, 4.30 p.m., Dr. Brian Phillips: neurological demonstration.

**WEST SUFFOLK POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Outpatient Department, Newmarket General Hospital, 8.15 p.m., clinical meeting.

**WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—At Page Street lecture theatre, 8 p.m., Professor R. L. Katz: Clinical Pharmacology of Neuromuscular Transmission.

**Wednesday, 26 March**

**CHILTERN MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Wycombe General Hospital, High Wycombe, 12.15 p.m., Dr. I. A. Horton: clinical case conference in Psychiatry.

**FOREST MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—At Whipps Cross Hospital, London E., 8.30 p.m., Wing Commander P. Howard: Man on the Moon—Some Medical Aspects.

**GWENT POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, Mon., 2.15 p.m., obstetrics and gynaecology meeting; 2.15 p.m., clinicopathological conference.

**INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.**—5.30 p.m., Edward Mapother memorial lecture by Sir Aubrey Lewis: Edward Mapother and the Making of the Maudsley.

**MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF MEDICINE.**—At Large Anatomy Theatre, Manchester University Medical School, 5 p.m., Mr. D. B. Longmore: Why Transplantation is Necessary in the face of Mechanical Artificial Organs.

**NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE UNIVERSITY.**—At New Lecture Theatre, Royal Victoria Infirmary, 5.30 p.m., Grey Turner memorial lecture by Professor R. B. Wellbourn: Cushing's Syndrome.

**ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—(1) 10.15 a.m., Medical staff round; (2) 11.45 a.m., clinicopathological conference.

**STOKE MANDEVILLE HOSPITAL.**—12.15 p.m., Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors: Management of Pleural Lesions.

**Thursday, 27 March**

**CROYDON MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Mayday Hospital, 8.30 p.m., Mr. W. G. Holdsworth: Modern Plastic Surgery.

**FACULTY OF HOMOEOPATHY.**—5 p.m., Dr. C. O. Kennedy, Dr. N. L. Mills, Mr. M. D. M. Staunton: Peptic Ulceration.

**HULL AND EAST RIDING POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Hull Royal Infirmary, 8 p.m., (1) Dr. W. Hartley: Radiology in Renal Investigation; (2) Dr. J. R. Brown: Radioisotopes in Renal Investigation.

**KINGSTON UPON THAMES MEDICAL CENTRE.**—12.30 p.m., Lecture and film, Dr. P. Farnan: Mucoviscidosis.

**LONDON ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.**—At Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, 8.30 p.m., presidential address by Dr. B. J. Haram.

**NEATH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Neath General Hospital, 4.30 p.m., Dr. Hawkins: Investigation of Hypertension.

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY.**—At Examination Schools, High Street, 5 p.m., Litchfield lecture by Professor L. J. Witts: Surgical Friends.

**Friday, 28 March**

**BROOK GENERAL HOSPITAL LONDON.**—At Postgraduate Medical Centre, 2 p.m., Dr. W. E. Mahon will present clinical cases.

**GOOD HOPE GENERAL HOSPITAL, Sutton Coldfield.**—At Postgraduate Medical Centre, 8 p.m., Organon lecture by Mr. D. B. Longmore: Organ Transplantation.

**INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Mr. V. T. Hammond: Management of Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media.

**MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF VENEREAL DISEASES.**—At 11 Chandos Street, London W., 7.30 p.m., presidential address by Dr. R. S. Morton: Syphilis in Art.

**PLYMOUTH MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—At North Friary House, 8.45 p.m., Dr. A. M. O. Blood: Obstetric Practice Abroad.

**Saturday, 29 March**

**ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS: SOUTHERN REGION.**—At St. Thomas's Hospital, London S.E., 11 a.m., all-day joint meeting with Society for Endocrinology: Control Mechanisms in Biochemistry and Endocrinology.

**MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—At Small Anatomy Theatre, Manchester University Medical School, 10 a.m., medical research papers followed by discussion.

**NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY.**—At Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Headington, Oxford, 8.30 a.m., Dr. A. C. Stevenson: Genetical Characteristics of Congenital Malformations; 9.45 a.m., Professor R. B. Duthie: Orthopaedic Genetics.

**Deaths**

**Jaffé.**—On 11 March 1969 at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, Henry Norman Jaffé, M.B., B.S., of the White Cottage, Derby Road, Nottingham, aged 71.

**Correction****Nursing and Nurses**

In a letter from Miss R. M. Jones (8 March, p. 640) the report referred to should have been *The Duties of Nurses in Outpatient Departments* prepared by the Standing Nursing Advisory Committee for the Central Health Services Council H.M. (65) 70.

**Notice to Authors**

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