

discovery of the raised alpha-fetoprotein concentration in amniotic fluid and serum of mothers carrying a fetus with spina bifida or anencephaly, and the development of a screening test

Professor J H Burn has been awarded the first Wellcome Gold Medal of the British Pharmacological Society.

Dr Alan Gilmour has been appointed director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Dr G I Hobday has been appointed chancellor of the University of Nottingham.

Professor C R Lowe has been appointed chairman of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council. He has been a member of the council for more than 12 years.

Sir Alan Marre has been appointed as the lay member and vice-chairman of the Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards in succession to Sir David Tench, who retires on 31 May.

Professor A E Mourant has been appointed visiting professor at the Collège de France, Paris, and is to give a course of lectures on "L'Hémotypologie en anthropologie" under the auspices of the Chaire d'Anthropologie.

Mr Neville Taylor has been appointed director of information at the Department of Health and Social Security.

COMING EVENTS

Royal College of Psychiatrists—Blake Marsh lecture and Maudsley Bequest lectures, 5-7 February, London. Details from the college, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. (Tel 01-235 2351-5.)

Royal College of Physicians of London—Teach-in "Clinical management of the haemolytic anaemias," 6 February, London. For details see advertisement at p ix.

London Medical Group—Annual conference, on "Violence," 9-10 February, London. Details of this and copies of the lecture list and study seminars from Mr Martin Waldrom, London Medical Group, Tavistock House East, Woburn Walk, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LG. (Tel 01-387 2129.)

Biological Council—Symposium on "Enzyme inhibitors as drugs," 9-10 April, London. Details from Mrs Joan Kruger, c/o Department of Pharmacology, School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX.

"Dying and bereaved children"—Cruse conference, 9-10 July, London. Details from the National Organisation for Widows and Their Children, Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR. (Tel 01-940 4818/9047.)

Association for the Psychiatric Study of Adolescents—Course in the development of internal and external controls, 13-15 July, Southampton. Details from Dr Anthony Saunders, Leigh House Adolescent Unit, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh. (Tel Chandlers Ford 2418.)

Sir Arthur Hurst Centenary—Special meeting and dinner to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Sir Arthur Hurst, 23 July, London. Details from Dr Thomas Hunt, British Digestive Foundation, Room D, 7 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London W1A 2LN. (Tel 01-580 1155.)

7th International Meeting of the International Society for Oncodevelopmental Biology and Medicine—"Tumour markers 1979: clinical and biological aspects," 9-14 September, Guildford. Details from Dr A M Neville, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (London Branch), Haddow Laboratories, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5PX.

International Congress of Neurotoxicology—27-30 September, Varese, Italy. Details from Professor L Manzo, Department of Pharmacology, University of Pavia, Piazza Botta 10, 27100, Pavia, Italy.

Third International Congress on Obesity—8-11 October 1980, Rome. Details from the organising secretariat, 3rd International Congress on Obesity, American Express Company SAI, Conventions Service Italy, Piazza Mignanelli 4, 00187 Roma, Italy.

"Physiopathology of puberty"—Symposium, 11-12 October (revised dates), Bologna. Details from the organising secretariat, Sero Sypmosia, Via Cimabue 1, Bologna, Italy. (Tel 051 381944.)

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, 29 January

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY—4.30 pm, Dr M F Spittle: Radiotherapy of malignant skin disease.

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY—12.30 pm, Mr I Z MacKenzie: The use of prostaglandins in modern obstetric practice.*

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON—5.30 pm, Freud memorial lecture in psychoanalysis by Dr Joseph Sandler: The psychoanalytic psychology of adaptation. 5.30 pm, Dr R A Flavell (Amsterdam): The structure and expression of a mammalian gene.

Wednesday, 31 January

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY—4.30 pm, Dr R H Meara: Atopic syndrome.

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY, QUEEN SQUARE—Sandoz Foundation advanced lectures on clinical and experimental neurology, 6 pm, Dr J Hughes: Neurochemical aspects of sensory transmission and pain. 7 pm, Professor P D Wall: Pain—central mechanisms.

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY—5.30 pm, Dr Bruce Sloane (California): Is psychotherapy alive and well and living in America?

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—At Hope Hospital, Salford, 4.30 pm, Harris and Gale lecture by Mr T E O'Brien: Fibrinolytic activity in the gastrointestinal tract.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE—5 pm, Dr W W Addington (Chicago): Sequelae of heroin abuse.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD—At Radcliffe Infirmary, 5 pm, Dr Basil Morson: Preventing colorectal cancer.

Thursday, 1 February

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLGY—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 5.30 pm, Mr Gerald Westbury: Management of tumours involving the tongue.

Friday, 2 February

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL—At Royal Liverpool Hospital, 5 pm, Mr J P O'Brien: Surgical management of TB spine.

Saturday, 3 February

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL—At Royal Liverpool Hospital, 9 am, Mr J P O'Brien: Recent research into low back pain.

BMA NOTICES

Central Meetings

JANUARY

31 Wed Ad Hoc Committee on Doctors and Social Workers, 10 am.

FEBRUARY

1 Thurs General Medical Services Committee, 10 am.

2 Fri Board of Science and Education, 10 am.

2 Fri Scottish Council (7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 7QP), 10.45 am.

8 Thurs Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 10 am.

9 Fri Central Committee for Community Medicine, 10 am.

9 Fri Honorary Secretaries Conference, 10 am.

Division Meetings

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

Birmingham—At Birmingham Medical Institute, Tuesday, 30 January, 8.15, Dr C F Hawkins: "Some torments of lectures—listeners, doctors and patients," joint meeting with Midland Medical Society. (7.15 pm, buffet supper.*)

Buckinghamshire—At Bell Pavilion, Aston Clinton, Friday, 2 February, BMA/BDA annual dinner dance.*

East Surrey—At Redhill General Hospital, Tuesday, 30 January, 7.30 pm, Dr John Barnes: "Current policy on immunisation." (Supper available.)

Sunderland—At Sunderland District General Hospital, Wednesday, 31 January, 8.15 pm, business meeting and talk by Dr F Pigott on POWAR.

West Cumbria—At West Cumberland Hospital, Thursday, 1 February, 7.30 pm, business meeting and address by Dr F Pigott: "Doctors or civil servants?"

Regional Meetings

North-east Thames Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At BMA House, Monday, 29 January, 5 pm.

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).

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

BRISTOL

Appointments—Mr B D Pentlow (consultant senior lecturer in surgery).

LIVERPOOL

The title of professor has been conferred on Mr P M Stell in respect of his post in the department of otorhinolaryngology.

Corrections

London Dyslexia Association

We regret that the wrong address and telephone number were given for the London Dyslexia Association (13 January, p 137). Inquirers should write to David Gauntlett, 109 Offord Rd, London N1.

New Year Honours

Mrs Jean C I Sowa was awarded an OBE (13 January, p 136) for her work in The Gambia, not Zambia.

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