

British Journal of Venereal Diseases

Edited for the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases

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Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases

Report based on the Secretary's report to the 61st annual general meeting held on 29 October 1982

During the past year 46 new members have been elected. Membership to date is 574, 211 being resident overseas. Two honorary life members have been elected.

Five ordinary meetings were held during the year and all of them were well attended. A genitourinary study weekend for junior doctors in the specialty was held at York on 3 April under the aegis of the Society. Over 80 attended and it is hoped to continue the event in the future. The Society is grateful to Bayer UK Ltd, which gave full financial support for the meeting; the company has promised to back a similar meeting in 1983.

The Spring Meeting was held at St Helier, Jersey, on 21 May. The standard of the 27 papers read was much improved on previous spring meetings and this augurs well for the future. The success of the meeting very much depended on the efforts of our local organiser, Dr Antony Essex-Cater, and his wife Jane, who went to endless care and trouble to ensure the smooth running of the event. We are indebted to the various pharmaceutical firms who helped support the meeting.

The Council of the Society held five meetings. At every council meeting prospective candidates for membership were always considered carefully before

they were recommended to the general meeting. Matters discussed included a study to learn the views of members regarding auditing and quality assurance and the formation of a sub-committee to consider papers for future spring meetings.

The *British Journal of Venereal Diseases* has continued to maintain its high standard. We are most grateful for the skilful management shown by Dr A E Wilkinson, and express our thanks for the smooth running of the *Journal* while he was Editor. We now welcome Dr A McMillan as Editor and wish him every success. Dr G D Morrison has kindly taken on the post of Assistant Editor. Volume 57 consisted of 424 pages and contained 87 articles.

Meetings of the European Union of Medical Specialists Monospecialty Committee on Dermatovenereology under the chairmanship of Dr R D Catterall continue. Efforts are being made to harmonise specialist training in all the countries concerned. General agreement has been reached that training should include a minimum of one year's general medical experience and a period of four years' specialist training in a recognised department.

We are indebted to Dr R N Thin, who has

acted as secretary of the Standing Advisory Committee on Venereology of the Joint Committee on Higher Medical Training. He has reported that the SAC on Venereology of the JCHMT met twice during the year. Many departments were visited and the SAC are grateful for the help of the many visitors. The SAC continued its policy of raising the standards of those accepted for enrolment and accreditation and also for approval for posts for higher medical training.

I think it could be said that the year has been successful, though not at all times trouble free. However, the Society depends very much on the goodwill, loyalty, and active participation of all its members, without which it will not flourish in years to come.

I should like to thank our retiring President, Dr Jack Barrow, under whom it has been a privilege to serve and who has given me such sound advice in my first year as Secretary. Having a president who knows the problems of being a secretary has been of great help.

M A WAUGH
Honorary Secretary

Notices

60th National Congress of the Italian Society of Dermatology and Venereology

The Sixtieth National Congress of the Italian Society of Dermatology and Venereology will be held at the Collegio dell'Opera Nazionale per l'Assistenza agli Orfani dei Sanitari Italiani, Perugia, Italy, from 12-14 May 1983. The programme will include: symposia on the dysmetabolic skin microangiopathies and their clinical expression; dermatomyositis and polymyositis; and the role of health education in the control of sexually transmitted diseases.

Abstracts of papers and posters should be submitted by 28 February 1983 to: Congress Secretary, Sixtieth National Congress of the Italian Society of Dermatology and Venereology, Clinica Dermatologica Università, Policlinico, 06100 Perugia, Italy (telephone: 075/66118).

IUVDT—South-east Asian and Western Pacific Region

The third regional meeting of the South-east Asian and Western Pacific Region of the International Union against the Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from Friday June 24 until Sunday June 26 1983. The primary theme will be prostitution and spread of STD. Secondary themes will include: management of STDs in developing countries and gynaecological conditions related to STD.

Information concerning attendance and participation in this meeting can be obtained from: Dr Kanchana Panikabutra, Bangrak Hospital, VD Control Division, 189 South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120, Thailand.