

Reports, News and Notes

Dr Ross St C. Barnetson joins the Editorial Board of *Leprosy Review*

It is with very great pleasure that we record the acceptance by Ross Barnetson of an invitation to join our Editorial Board. Prior to his appointment as consultant dermatologist in the Department of Dermatology in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, he worked for several years on the teaching and clinical staff of the All Africa Leprosy and Rehabilitation Training Centre (ALERT) in Addis Ababa and has contributed extensively to studies on the immunological and clinical aspects of this disease. He brings a rare combination of expertise in dermatology, leprosy, immunology, clinical work and teaching, which will surely be of the greatest value to this Journal. *Editor*

Luxembourg Award to Pierre Van den Wijngaert, General Secretary of ILEP

On the occasion of the recent meeting of the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) in Luxembourg, the Minister of State, Mr Jacques Santer presented Mr Pierre Van den Wijngaert with the 'Ordre du Mérite du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg' in recognition of his long and distinguished contribution to the fight against leprosy. Mr Wijngaert was founder of the Belgian association 'Les Amis du Père Damien' and he has been General Secretary of ILEP since its foundation in 1966. The Editorial Board of *Leprosy Review* congratulates Mr Van den Wijngaert on this richly deserved award and wishes him many more happy years of work with ILEP.

Teaching and learning materials on leprosy from The Leprosy Mission (International), London

In her Report for 1984, Miss P Jane Neville, Education and Training Director, summarizes the activities of the 'Teaching and Learning' Distribution Service 1982–84 and draws attention to the fact that during 1984 a total of 11,026 items were despatched from London to various leprosy-endemic areas overseas. Fifty countries were contacted during the year, bringing the grand total of countries contacted to date to 106. There are 20 items on the TLM list of materials and a checklist is provided indicating their suitability for doctors, health programme planners, health educators, shoe workshop managers, junior health workers, supervisors, senior health workers, laboratory technicians, physiotherapy technicians, medical students and surgeons. Some items are free, others are to be paid for. Sea mail is used free of charge, but there is an extra charge for despatch by air mail, if this is requested. Enquiries to: Teaching and Learning Materials, The Leprosy Mission (International), 50 Portland Place, London W1N 3DG, England—but please note that workers in India should apply for the printed book list and prices to The Leprosy Mission, CNI Bhavan, 16 Pandit Pant Marg, New Delhi 110 001, India.

LEPRA Prize Essay Competitions for Medical Students in the UK and India

In the United Kingdom, the subjects offered for 1984 were 'Monoclonal antibodies and Recombinant DNA technology; present and future use in leprosy and tuberculosis' or 'Leprosy will be most expediently controlled by the use of fully integrated programmes which make use of the primary health care approach'. The first prize was awarded to Mr Michael Seckl of University College Hospital, London for an entry of exceptional quality on monoclonal antibodies and DNA. This manuscript has been submitted for possible publication in the medical press and the award will be made at the Annual General Meeting of LEPRA in London in May 1985. The subjects chosen for the UK competition in 1985 are 'The relation between allergy and immunity in leprosy' or 'Leprosy will be controlled by an anti-leprosy vaccine in conjunction with chemotherapy, not by improvement in socio-economic conditions.' Information has, as usual, been distributed to all 31 universities with a medical school in the UK.

In India, at St John's Medical College, Bangalore, no entry of sufficient merit was received in 1984, but the prize is to continue in 1985 with the subjects—'Ulceration of the foot in leprosy' or 'Leprosy will be controlled by an anti-leprosy vaccine in conjunction with chemotherapy, not by improvement in socio-economic conditions.' Further details: Dr Ciaran Kelly, LEPRA, Fairfax House, Causton Road, Colchester CO1 1PU.

Core Journals in Dermatology

This A4 document of about 14 pp, described as 'The fastest current awareness abstracting Service' is published by Elsevier Science Publishers in collaboration with the Excerpta Medica Database, and supported by Glaxo. It deals with dermatology (only) and covers material of relevance in 5 leading general journals (*Annals of Internal Medicine*, *British Medical Journal*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Lancet* and *New England Journal of Medicine*) and 14 specialist journals (*Acta Dermato-Venerologica*, *Annales de Dermatologie et de Venerologie*, *Archives of Dermatological Research*, *Archives of Dermatology*, *British Journal of Dermatology*, *British Journal of Venereal Diseases*, *Clinical and Experimental Dermatology*, *Contact Dermatitis*, *Dermatologica*, *Hautarzt*, *International Journal of Dermatology*, *Journal of the American Academy of*

Dermatology, Journal of Cutaneous Pathology and Journal of Investigative Dermatology). Abstracts are published 4-6 weeks after receipt of the journal. It is issued monthly at an annual subscription which varies between US \$50 and \$100, depending on individual or institutional status. Apply to Elsevier Science Publishers, Journals Division, PO Box 211, 1000 AE Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Medical Research Charities in the UK; Handbook.

This 'Handbook of the Association of Medical Research Charities', dated May 1984, gives details of the activities and main interests of the major medical research charities and provides a forum for their regular meetings. These give members an opportunity 'to discuss strategy and organisation and to hear from visiting speakers about trends and developments of significance for medical research'. The annual income of the 35 members amounted to £128,000,000 in 1983, of which £77,000,000 was spent on research, but the Introduction reminds the reader that many charities in the UK are not members of this Association and that the overall provision of funds for medical research are considerably greater. Copies are obtainable from The Association of Medical Research Charities, The Development Trust for the Young Disabled, Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables, West Hill, Putney, London, SW15 3SW.

Heiser Program for Research in Leprosy, 1986

Once again this programme has sent details of the awards which are offered. These fall under the headings of post-doctoral research fellowships, research grants and visiting research awards. The Scientific Advisory Committee includes Maclyn McCarty, W Lane Barksdale and Barry Bloom. Applications and enquiries to Mrs Barbara Hugonnet, Director, Heiser Program for Research in Leprosy, 450 East 63rd Street, New York, New York 10021, USA.

Robert Cochrane Fund for Leprosy

The fund, in memory of the contribution of the great leprologist Robert Cochrane, is administered by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. It is to be used to finance up to 2 travel fellowships each year to a maximum value of £1000 each.

The intention is to enable leprosy workers to travel for practical training in field work, or in research, or to enable experienced leprologists to travel in order to provide practical clinical training in a developing country. There is no restriction on the country of origin or destination providing the above requirements are fulfilled.

Application forms are available from the Society and must be received by the Society at least 6 months ahead of the proposed trip. All applications must be sponsored by a suitable representative of the applicant's employer or study centre, and agreed by the host organization. A 2 page report on the travel/study should be submitted to the Society within 1 month of the recipient's return. Apply: The Administrator, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Manson House, 26 Portland Place, London W1N 4EY.

XVII World Congress of Dermatology, Berlin, 1987

We have received preliminary information about this Congress which will be held in Berlin from 20 to 25 September 1987. The main headings of the programme are: special lectures; advances in dermatology; symposia; workshops; courses; free communications; case presentations; informal discussion groups; poster communications; scientific exhibitions; audio-visual communications; scientific film sessions; update educational sessions; question and answer sessions. Further information from Professor Dr C E Orfanos, General Secretary, Department of Dermatology, University Medical Centre, Steglitz, Hindenburgdamm 30, D-1000, Berlin 45, Germany.

XIII International Leprosy Congress, The Hague, Netherlands, 1988

The President and Secretary of the International Leprosy Association are happy to announce that the XIIIth International Leprosy Congress will be held at the Hague, Netherlands from 11 to 17 September 1988. The Pre-Congress Workshops will be held on 8, 9 and 10 September 1988. The Inauguration of the Congress has been tentatively fixed for the evening of 11 September 1988 and the Scientific Sessions will start on 12 September. The concluding session will be on the forenoon of 17 September 1988.

Mr H E M De Bok of the Netherlands Leprosy Association is making the arrangements for the Congress and the first Information Brochure will be sent to you by September 1985.

If you have any suggestions, please contact: Dr R H Thangaraj, Secretary—I.L.A. No. 5 Amrita Shergill Marg, New Delhi 110003, India.

XXVth IUAT World Conference on Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, Singapore, 4-7 November 1986

The Conference is open to members and non-members of the IUAT. The programme will cover the fields of *tuberculosis* and *non-tuberculous respiratory diseases*, including smoking-related issues, from the clinical, immunological, physiological, diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive and epidemiological points of view, as well as aspects related to *action programmes* and their assessment, training of personnel, related diseases such as those due to non-tuberculous mycobacteria and problems of *delivery of services* (such as primary health care, compliance, community mobilization).

There will be 6 morning plenary sessions, afternoon parallel sessions, poster sessions, sunrise seminars and several workshops. Official languages will be English and French. Spanish interpretation is being considered.

Abstracts for proposed presentations should be sent to: IUAT Secretariat, 3, rue Georges Ville, 75116 Paris, France. Abstract forms will be distributed by the end of March 1985 to all IUAT members. Non-members may obtain copies by writing to us in Paris. *Proposals must concern original work in progress.*

The IUAT world conferences are the only international forum for tuberculosis, and in respiratory disease the IUAT is working out a programme of research, training and action for the promotion of respiratory health.

For practical information, kindly write to: Secretariat of the XXVth IUAT World Conference on Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, c/o SATA, 267 Cantonment Road, Singapore 0208, Republic of Singapore.