

EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure we announce here the amalgamation of the two Dermatologic bodies in India, namely Dermatologic Society of India and Indian Association of Dermatologists and Venereologists, into one united body, hereafter will be known as **Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists**. The two bodies met in Udaipur on January 28, 1973 and unanimously agreed upon the amalgamation. A new constitution is drawn up and the office of the new Association is located in New Delhi under the Honorary Secretaryship of Dr. L. K. Bhutani. Professor B. N. Banerjee is the first President-elect of our new Association. Hearty congratulations to all the members of the two bodies for their wishful achievement. Thus the First Annual Conference of the I A D V L was held at Udaipur along with the Association of Physicians of India, from January 29-31, 1973.

Dr. T. K. Mehta, previous Editor of this Journal, past President of our Association and presently, the President of the College of Physicians of India, Bombay, was honoured at the Udaipur Conference for having been chosen for the Glaxo Oration which carried citation of his achievements and cash prize of Rs. 1,000/-. His subject for the oration was "Medical Journalism" (will be published in the next issue). He has graciously donated the oration prize of Rs. 1,000/- to the Association.



We regret very much for the delay in publishing this issue of our Journal. This has become unavoidable on account of 75% power cut in Tamilnadu.

REQUEST

At present, Dr. S. J. Yawalkar has a very rare case of Necrobiosis lipoidica diabetorum with generalised morphea-like lesions, affecting more than fifty per cent of the skin area. Routine histology is characteristic and electron microscopic and histochemical studies are being carried out. He requests Dermatologists to let him know if they have so far reported a case of NLD. In case yes, please oblige him by sending one reprint to the below given address.

Dr. S. J. YAWALKAR,
Guide Bldg. 12th Floor, 46 Fl.
Ruparel Marg, Malabar Hill,
Bombay-6.

BOOK REVIEWS

McLachlan's Handbook of DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES, Ed. 5, 1969, Pub. E & S Livingstone Ltd., Edinburgh and London, 161 illustrations both colour and black and white, P. 221, Price £ 2.50.

Contains Psychiatric aspects and epidemiology of venereal disease, clinical and laboratory procedures, non-venereal disorders of the genitalia and their venereal forms. Each chapter is based on a wide bibliography.

As expressed by the various opinions on this book, all students and specialists practising and teaching venereology are well advised to possess this book to their advantage.

Dr. J. N. F. MATHIAS

Dermatology by R.M.B. Mackenna, R.E. Lipman Cohen, 2nd edition, revised by E. Lipman Cohen and J. S. Pegum. Concise Medical Textbooks. Bailliere Tindall and Casell, London.

Dermatology is one of the many concise textbooks produced by the Concise Medical Textbook. Though this book is primarily meant for students, it is of equal utility to a general practitioner and post-graduates.

The authors have adopted a rational approach in dealing with the various skin disorders e.g. etiologic classification, systematic treatment of individual skin disease etc. The chapter on biology of the skin is very helpful to understand functions of skin. This edition is rendered more useful by the inclusion of representative illustrations.

The book is claimed to be concise and readable. Actually it suffers from these draw-backs. It is concise because of tiny printings. Its readability suffers because there are too many points stuffed in single sentences. Exactly because of this it is highly informative and instructive.

Dr. T. K. MEHTA

NEWS — A NEW DISCOVERY FROM PFIZER

The internationally renowned firm Pfizer, which has given to the medical world a number of life-saving drugs and other pharmaceutical preparations has announced the introduction abroad of a new oral antibiotic, "Geocillin" for the treatment of urinary tract infections.

The new preparation, which is a discovery of Pfizer, is a derivative of carbenicillin, a semi-synthetic penicillin with a unique spectrum of antibacterial activity. The new penicillin represents an extension of oral treatment for chronic and acute infections of the upper and lower urinary tracts, since it is the only oral urinary tract penicillin effective against the three organisms which are responsible for nearly 90% of all urinary tract infections.

"Geocillin", which will be introduced in November by Pfizer in the U.S., is a result of research carried out by Pfizer over a period of more than five years to discover a family of chemical derivatives of Geopen which have a clinically useful activity when administered by mouth.