

EDITORIAL

Our twelfth annual conference was held jointly with the Silver Jubilee conference of Association of Physicians of India at Bombay from 17th to 21st January 1970.

In Bombay weather is never extreme in winter. It was just cool in mornings and evenings but warm in afternoon. Ordinary light suits were adequate to enjoy the climate. Thus this materially reduced the weight of luggage of outside delegates.

The inaugural session of the joint conference was held, as is usual for such conferences, at the one and only Birla Matushri Sabhagar, the showplace of the nation as frankly admitted by many delegates. Somehow it has become a routine practice with the organizers to invite governors and ministers to inaugurate such conferences. There must be advantages. The whole function was a routine affair with which by now habitual delegates are familiar and therefore it is superfluous to go into its details.

The joint scientific sessions were held at the modern premises of T. N. Medical college and Nair Hospital. Delegates were very much impressed by the facilities available at the institutions. They started with reviews of 25 years work in different specialities. Our twin speciality was ably represented by Drs. Sharat C. Desai and Dr. Dharmendra. The former reviewed dermato-venereology and the latter did leprosy. The review sessions were well attended.

We started with the central council and then general body meeting in one of the spacious halls allotted to us. Dr. D. N. Mulay was in chair. He ably conducted the business which had to be spread over three sessions of 2 hours each. In the end we finished all the agenda. As usual members took keen interest in the functioning of the journal. Prof. Kandhari and others made many constructive suggestions for the better working of the journal. The editor presented a comprehensive report regarding the journal's progress. He appealed to members to present more original papers which ultimately determine the status of a journal. After the business being over the outgoing president Dr. Mulay, amidst thumping applause, introduced and installed the new president Dr. J. C. Shroff (Bombay). The latter thanked the members for the honour, and then read his written address in measured tones. He was brief and to the point and mainly confined himself to the inadequacy of undergraduate teaching in medical colleges.

This was followed by a witty and scholarly oration by Dr. R. Rajam (Madras) the founder president of our Association. Dr. F. Ray Bettley of St. John Hospital and Middlesex hospital London, a special invitee to our conference delivered 2 lectures. One on skin manifestations of internal diseases was delivered to the joint conference. It was very well attended and appreciated by all the delegates. The T. N. M. C. Auditorium was packed to capacity. The second on percutaneous absorption

was delivered to our specialist session. Our members were much impressed by this research oriented work. Our president thanked Dr. Bettley in suitable terms.

After this our regular scientific sessions began with a symposium on Dermatomycois. There were about 25 scientific papers presented by delegates from different parts of the country. One must point out that every year the content and quality of scientific material is definitely improving for the better. Not only that but more and more junior people are coming forward with papers. To add variety and colour our ladies folk are also actively participating in scientific activities. We had 3 ladies this time. One does not know if that partly explains for the good attendance at all meetings. One of the notable features of scientific sessions was the lively interest members took in the discussions which followed every paper. This is a healthy and progressive trend which should continue,

The conference was wound up by the president Dr. J. C. Shroff by appealing to members to muster strong in greater number at the next conference at Manglore.

The arrangements for the conference were excellent. We are indeed grateful to the organisers of API and also to authorities of Topiwala National medical college and Nair Hospital, venue of the conference for all the comforts and facilities provided to us during the period of the conference. So on to Manglore,

T. K. M.

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F.A.A.P. (Hony.), and
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