

NEWS & VIEWS

First Congress of the International Society of Tropical Dermatology

There have been many inquiries regarding the requirements for attending forthcoming first congress of the International Society of Tropical Dermatology to be held at Naples from the 8th to 13th June 1964.

Any member of our association wishing to attend has first to become a regular member of the ISTD, the membership-dues for which is \$ 8 annually.

Dr. Sharat C. Desai will be glad to propose members of our association wishing to join the ISTD, for which, forms are available from him.

Fellows of the Indian Academy of Medical Science

The following memers of our association have been elected as the fellows of the Indian Academy of Medical Science: Dr. R. V. Rajam, Dr. P. M. Rangiah, Dr. S. C. Desai, & Dr. K. C. Kandhari.

Indian Council of Medical Research

We are glad to be informed that the Indian Council of Medical Research constituted an Ad-Hoc Committee on Dermatologic Research in which the following members of our association were invited as participants: Drs. K. C. Kandhari, D. P. Jayaram and S. C. Desai. We are happy to circulate the deliberation of this committee and hope that members of our association may start formulating research proposals to the council on any of the suggested topics. These proposals have to be properly formulated (see below) and 120 copies are to be sent to the Secretary, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi 16.

The proposals should contain the following information (1) Title of Inquiry (2) Name of Research worker, Collaborator if any (3) Institution where the work will be carried out (4) Aims and objects (5) Importance of work and a review of prior publications (6) Methodology to be followed (7) Duration of work (8) Budget required (Personnel, laboratory and other materials etc.)

Some of the problems which may be tackled in the groups mentioned above are suggested below.

Pyoderma:

- I) Studies on skin flora and phage typing of staphylococci, their sources and epidemiologic data.
- II) Studies on antibacterial sensitivity of drugs in pyoderma.
- III) Studies on the factors underlying pathogenicity: (1) diet, (2) immunity, (3) disturbances of the degerming capacity of skin.
- IV) Incidence of wound infection in hospitals and study on remedial measures.

Fungous Infections :

- I) Mycologic survey in different areas of India to find out the pattern of distribution of pathogenic organisms.
- II) Studies on susceptibility factors.
- III) Studies on Immunity in mycosis.
- IV) Role of sensitization in disease mechanism.

Leprosy :

- I) To confirm the work on bacillary positive findings in contacts of leprosy.
- II) Developments and genesis of lepromin reaction in contacts.

Scabies :

- I) Studies on the development of mass treatment methods.

Nutrition and Skin Infection :

Role of diet (protein and carbohydrate components) on the genesis of skin infections.

Other diseases which can be profitably explored are (1) pigmentary disorders and (2) bullous dermatoses.

Please write to the Secretary of the Council for any other details you require,

Concern Over Rise in Teenage VD; Topic of Los Angeles

Health Meeting

Concern over an upsurge of venereal disease among teen-agers in Los Angeles County culminated in a meeting of the Committee on Health Education Resources of the Los Angeles (California) Welfare Planning Council to find ways and means to combat and prevent the occurrence of VD among teen-agers.

The Health Education Resources Committee consists of representatives from 15 city and county schools, health departments, voluntary and governmental agencies, the Community Chest, and the American Social Health Association.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Committee recommended that public schools be invited to establish VD informational programs and that the Los Angeles Welfare Planning Council be vested with the responsibility for the future study of ways and means to combat teen-age VD. The latter recommendation was later approved by the Board of Directors of the Welfare Planning Council.—*Social Health News*, Vol. 38, No. 1, Jan. '63.

Pfizer Oral Vaccines Against All Three Types of Polio

NEW YORK,—Officials of Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc., expressed gratification upon notification from the United States Public Health Service that the Pfizer organization had received a licence for Type III Sabin oral polio vaccine.

The New licence provides Pfizer with oral vaccines against all three types of polio. Licences for Types I and II vaccines were granted to Pfizer last year.

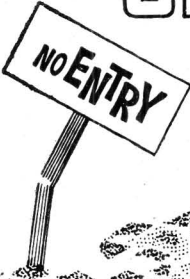
"Production of the vaccine," Mr. Hough pointed out, "is a time-consuming process. A total of at least five months is required to produce each lot of vaccine. Approximately 110 different tests are performed in the production process to determine the vaccine's stability, potency and safety."

"As with any research programme of this scope, involving as it does a substantial investment in personnel, facilities and finance, we have experienced our disappointments and problems along the way," Mr. Hough continued. "All of this, however, pales into insignificance when one contemplates that the achievement could be the final step toward the eradication of this dread disease."

Unique Pfizer Handbook Classifies Microbes and Their Chemical Products

The Pfizer Handbook of Microbial Metabolites—a new and unique manual of fermentation chemicals—has been published by McGraw-Hill. The only reference work of its kind for biochemists and scientific workers in related fields, the *Pfizer Handbook* represents several years of diligent work by Dr. Max W. Miller of the Pfizer Medical Research Laboratories at Groton, in collaboration with other scientists in the Research Division. Dr. Miller has been with Pfizer since 1955 specializing in fermentation chemistry and the isolation and characterization of microbial products. A graduate of the University of Illinois, he received his Ph. D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1950. Dr. Miller is a member of the American Chemical Society.


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