

## GENERAL NOTES

THE attention of members is drawn to the *EXCERPTA MEDICA* Section XI which is a most valuable international abstracting service as it gives each month abstracts of all the important papers in Oto-Rhino-Laryngology. The subscription is £4 8s. od. a year and the agents for Great Britain, the Dominions and the Commonwealth (excluding Canada) are E. and S. Livingstone Ltd., 16 and 17 Teviot Place, Edinburgh. We regret that in previous issues the price was incorrectly stated as five dollars or the equivalent.

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### BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGISTS

#### ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND EAR, NOSE AND THROAT OPERATIONS

THE attention of members is drawn to the Medical Memorandum on Poliomyelitis, No. 93222/7/63, dated July, 1954, issued by the Ministry of Health and Department of Health for Scotland. The relevant passages in this report, which are of interest to Otolaryngologists, are as follows :

#### 1. EPIDEMIOLOGY.

(a) The present evidence suggests that the portal of entry is usually the mouth and that the primary site of infection is in the mucosa of the oropharynx or the small intestine.

(b) In bulbar poliomyelitis following tonsillectomy it seems that the virus most probably travels to the medulla along the cranial nerves supplying the pharynx.

(c) It is fairly generally accepted that specific trauma, especially tonsillectomy, may precipitate paralysis.

#### 2. CONTROL MEASURES : AVOIDANCE OF CERTAIN TRAUMA.

(a) *Tonsillectomy.* The postponement of tonsillectomy when poliomyelitis reaches unusual proportions in a locality is strongly advised, particularly because when poliomyelitis follows recent tonsillectomy, serious illness, with bulbar involvement, appears to be more frequent. The Medical Officer of Health can assist by informing local hospital authorities when and where the incidence of the disease is unusually high, so that the surgeon may then take this hazard into account before deciding to operate.

(b) *Tooth Extractions.* There is very little evidence that tooth extractions may predispose to bulbar poliomyelitis. Nevertheless as with ear, nose and throat surgery the possibility should be kept in mind by dentists undertaking non-urgent extractions in areas of epidemic prevalence.

## General Notes

### OTOLARYNGOLOGY LECTURES 1956

THE following lectures, arranged jointly by the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Institute of Laryngology and Otology will be delivered in the Lecture Hall of the College at 5.30 p.m.

1956

July 5th. Professor W. V. Mayneord. Recent scientific development in radiotherapy.

The lecture arranged for May 3rd by Mr. E. J. Radley Smith on the Physiology and Pathology of the Pituitary Gland has unavoidably been postponed until the next session.

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### THE INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY & OTOLOGY

The Academic Board announces that the Short Course in Pathology will be repeated on 18th & 19th May, 1956, and that a Short Course on the Deaf Child for Consultant Otologists will be given on 1st, 2nd & 3rd May, 1956. A similar course for Senior Registrars has been arranged for 16th to 19th October, 1956.

The Trustees of the Nuffield Foundation have made a grant of £3,000 to the associated Royal National Throat, Nose & Ear Hospital to finance four scholarships in connection with a year's pilot scheme of teaching selected personnel the methods of auditory assessment and training of the deaf child. It is hoped to put this scheme into operation shortly.

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### NORTH OF ENGLAND OTOLARYNGOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE Fifty Guinea Prize will be awarded again in 1957 for original work in otolaryngology carried out in the North of England.

Entries (three copies) should be sent to the Secretary, before August 1st, 1957.

The investigation must have been carried out during the tenure of a senior registrar, registrar, house officer, or clinical assistant post.

At the meeting in Newcastle on March 24th, 1956, Mr. F. McGuckin was installed as President, and Mr. R. W. Bailie was awarded the fifty-guinea prize for his paper on Lermoyez Syndrome (published in the *Journal of Laryngology*, February, 1956).

The next meeting will take place at Halifax on June 2nd.

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### ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

THE programme of the Combined Summer Meeting of the Sections of Laryngology and Otology is expected to be as follows. The meeting is to be held at Nottingham:

THURSDAY, JUNE 14TH, 1956: *Laryngological Session at 9.30 a.m.*

Papers:

Mr. T. O. Howie: "The present place of the laryngofissure operation."

Mr. J. Otty: "The changing aspect of nasal disease."

## General Notes

FRIDAY, JUNE 15TH, 1956: *Otological Session at 9.30 a.m.*

Papers:

Mr. G. H. Bateman: "Secretory otitis media."

Dr. J. C. Seymour: "The significance of the circulation in some inner ear diseases."

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### SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

MEETING: WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S.A., MAY 5TH-10TH, 1957

THE Sixth International Congress of Otolaryngology will meet in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., on May 5th-10th, 1957. Preliminary announcement was sent to every otolaryngologist of record in the world in early autumn, 1956, asking that those interested indicate this fact by returning an enclosed card. A second notice with further information will soon be sent to those who returned these cards. If you wish to receive the second announcement and the original one did not reach you or you did not return the card, please notify Paul H. Holinger, M.D., General Secretary, 700 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill., U.S.A., so that your name may be placed on the active mailing list.

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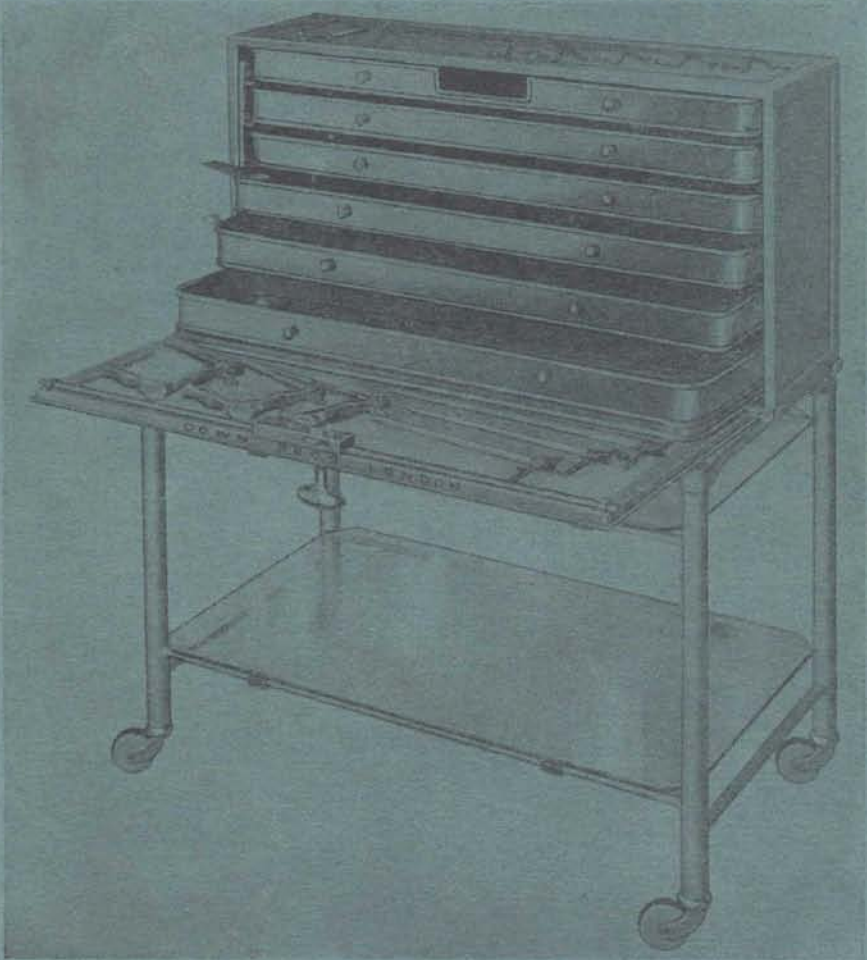
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