

EDITORIAL

This issue is devoted almost completely to the Proceedings of the Sports Injuries Symposium held at the University of Exeter in September, 1979, sponsored by the Boots Company Ltd., and organised by their agents, the Biggs Communications Group Ltd., who were responsible for tape recording the conference and transcribing the tapes. These transcriptions of papers delivered verbally had to be edited, and in many cases rewritten, then checked by the authors before the usual procedures of typesetting, proof correction, incorporation of illustrations and final make-up and indexing could be done, hence the inevitable delay.

Regular readers will notice some changes in the format of the journal, in expanding the information given about methods of purchasing it, and contact addresses of the officers of the British Association of Sport and Medicine, the organisation that publishes the journal. We also welcome most warmly the appointment of Surgeon Rear Admiral Stanley Miles to the newly created office of Chairman of the Editorial Board, and know that his previous experience as Editor of the Royal Naval Medical Journal, and authorship of many scientific articles and books will make him a most valuable asset.

To our many new readers, for whom this special number of the Association's journal has been commissioned, we extend our welcome, and hope that the contents help to stimulate interest of more doctors in this fascinating multi-disciplinary subspeciality, a branch of Occupational Medicine, in which the basic medical sciences of anatomy, physiology and biochemistry combine with all branches of clinical medicine, pharmacology, physiotherapy, physical education, biomechanics and other sciences. Man is designed to be active, and as he devotes more of his time to recreational activity, for its enjoyment, or to promote physical and mental health and prevent disease, the role of the doctor or other health worker in the medicine of sport and recreation becomes more prominent. The Exeter symposium was designed to introduce some general practitioners to the subject of sports trauma, acute and overuse injuries, and methods of treating them, including the use of prostaglandin inhibiting drugs, but this is only a small part of sports medicine.

Some of our new readers may be interested in the various organisations that are concerned with the application of human sciences to sport and recreation, so a brief description follows.

Federation International de Medicine Sportive ("FIMS"). Founded in 1928 to bring together mainly those doctors with responsibility for the various national Olympic teams, it now numbers some 55 national sports medicine organisations in addition to several hundred Associate Members, doctors who have attended one of the approved short courses. FIMS publish the 'Basic Handbook of Sports Medicine', and their quarterly journal, available at a reduced price to members of the various national sports medicine organisations, 'The Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness'; it is printed in English by Edizione Minerva Medica of Turin, Italy. Enquiries to Dr. J. G. P. Williams, Farnham Park Rehabilitation Centre, Farnham Royal, SLOUGH, SL2 3LR, the Secretary General.

British Association of Sport and Medicine. Founded in 1952 as an organisation to bring together the medical officers of Governing Bodies of Sport, it later expanded to include any doctor interested in sports medicine, and also eligible for membership are sports scientists, recognised teachers of physical education, physiotherapists and others in professions recognised by the Board of Professions Supplementary to Medicine. Annual courses in sports medicine are held, usually in April, meetings are organised on national and regional bases, and the 'British Journal of Sports Medicine' is the quarterly journal. Details of purchasing the journal and of applications for membership are given inside the front cover of this issue.

The Institute of Sports Medicine (ISM). This body was set up jointly by the British Olympic Association, the British Association of Sport and Medicine and the Physical Education Association, to provide an academic organisation. An athlete's clinic has been established in the Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, as a service to injured undergraduates, and to undertake research. Several other projects have been run or sponsored by the ISM. The Secretary is Mr. P. Sebastian, JP, Ling House, 10 Nottingham Place, LONDON W1.

British Society for Sports Psychology. Founded about 15 years ago, with a membership drawn largely from lecturers in physical education in universities and colleges. Enquiries to Mr. B. Head-Rapson, Department of Physical Education, Trent Polytechnic, Clifton, NOTTINGHAM.

Society of Sports Scientists. An organisation largely of lecturers in physical education and physiologists interested in exercise physiology. Enquiries to Dr. J. Atha, PhD, Human Biology Department, University of Technology, LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.

Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports Medicine (ACPSM). This is a "Special Interests" group of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, and membership is restricted to chartered physiotherapists. An annual national meeting is held, as well as regional meetings. Their publication, three times a year, is 'Physiotherapy in Sport'. Enquiries to Mr. D. Chapman, MCSP, Whiteoaks Clinic, HEATHFIELD, East Sussex.

Other organisations run meetings on sports medicine from time to time; the annual 'Colloquium for Clinical Problems related to Sport' run by Dr. J. G. P. Williams from Farnham Park, held at Windsor; the Royal Society of Medicine occasionally; several post-graduate medical centres, medical societies etc., and usually advertised in the medical press or notified by FPCs.

A rapid growth of interest in sports medicine, however, must not lead to a free-for-all, cashing in on the band-wagon, but a steady growth of the number of doctors in general and hospital practice prepared to learn the theory and practice of the subject, as with any other branch of medicine.

OBITUARY

Sir Andrew Stephen, MB, ChB.

Sir Andrew, former chairman of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club and of the Football Association, died in the Royal Hallamshire Hospital on the 25th of February, 1980. He was 73 years of age. He qualified at the School of Medicine, University of Aberdeen, in 1928, and came to Sheffield from his native Aberdeen in 1930, to become a partner in a local general practice. In 1946 he became "The Owls" medical officer; four years later he joined the board, and became chairman in 1956 until 1973. He became the official representative of Sheffield Wednesday F.C. to the British Association of Sport and Medicine in 1958, and continued as an ordinary member when he was succeeded in this appointment in 1976.

In January, 1967 he became the first Scot ever to be elected chairman of the Football Association, and held this office until the end of the 1976 season. Until his death, he was still an influential figure on the Medical Committee of the International Amateur Football Association, F.I.F.A. In H.M. The Queen's birthday honours in 1972 he received a knighthood for his services to football and to medicine.

Andrew was a modest, gentle and kind man, much loved by his patients and colleagues. He is survived by his wife and three sons.

W. Purcell