EDITORIAL

"THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA" – 1982  As we go to press, plans go ahead for the 22nd World Congress on Sports Medicine due to be held in Vienna from June 28th until July 4th. For once we seem to be able to muster a larger delegation of our members from the UK than usual, at least nine as far as we know, but still far too few from our 1,200 or so members based on the home country. Since the war, it has been hard to find financial support for overseas conferences for British residents, but we are hoping to raise enough money from the Treasury to pay 75% of the travelling expenses of one delegate. We have few details of the exact scientific and business programme, but the social programme looks most entertaining, though expensive. It is only to be hoped that the real business of the International Federation of Sports Medicine ("FIMS") can be constructive, and lead to an efficient administration and the promotion of sports medicine in those countries in which it is still the Cinderella of the profession. The most famous Congress of Vienna, in 1814, lasted very much longer, concentrated upon its social and ceremonial aspects, and much international bickering that allowed Napoleon to escape from Elba and reassert his authority and aggression for the famous Hundred Days. Like the FIMS Congress, the venue was the Hofburg Palace, and the participants a variety of powerful personalities that could not agree on any major policy; Lords Castlereagh and Cathcart together with the Duke of Wellington for Britain; the Czar and Count Nesselrode from Russia trying to upset any progress; the Emperor Francis and the experienced politician Metternich of Austria; King Frederick William of Prussia; Don Pedro Labrador putting forward the Spanish opposition to any reform of the Slave Trade; finally the two ex-revolutionary Frenchmen Fouché and Tallyrand trying to salvage what they could from the struggle. Let us hope that Vienna 1982 achieves more and with no real antipathy, and that the letters we receive from overseas finishing with "Yours sincerely in Sport" will prove to mean what the writers say, and overcome any national political wrangling.

To continue our theme of international exchange in sports medicine, this issue of the journal draws contributions from many places; a survey of abdominal injuries from Sweden, further reports on neck injuries in Norwegian footballers, the hazards of roller-disco dancing as a new danger in Northern Ireland, further studies on an anti-inflammatory drug from the UK, exercise cost in racquet games (USA), and from the UK also three examples of misdiagnosis, and the procedure to be followed in case of subaqua emergencies. We include abstracts forming the Proceedings of the Symposium held at Loughborough University by the Society of Sports Sciences. Contributors have been invited to submit full texts if they like to us or to other journals (but we hope they will be able to find much shorter titles for their papers, preferably the five to eight words, as agreed generally by editors of medical and biological journals).

In a letter received recently from Dr. Ian Morris, he informs us that the rugby player injured by the back-to-back lifting exercise reported in our last issue has regained active use of the shoulders and elbows, and is continuing to make progress at Stoke Mandeville National Spinal Unit. Also in the last issue, the printer inadvertently produced an advertisement in negative, believing it to be a lay-out design artist's somewhat avant-garde inspiration; we offer Alpha Design Associates our sincere apologies, and include the advertisement right way round this time, gratis. Comments about the need to protect the term "Physiotherapist" have led to a protest from Mr. M. W. Nile, a student of Remedial Gymnastics at Pinderfields, who puts forward the case for protection of the title "Remedial Gymnast". We would agree, and hope that sports clubs will also differentiate between Chartered Physiotherapists, Remedial Gymnasts (both acceptable for membership of BASM) and other masseurs and trainers without qualifications registrable by the Council to the Professions Supplementary to Medicine (who are not).

A letter has been received from Australia offering car stickers to discourage smoking; they read "Non-smokers do it without puffing!" There is no picture to illustrate what they do, but anyone interested in promoting health in this way can obtain these by writing to Dr. A. Zdenkowski, 37A Berkeley Street, SPEERS POINT, NSW 2284, Australia. The cost is A$30 for a hundred.

Another healthy habit is the increased enthusiasm of doctors to take as well as prescribe exercise. Several entered the recent London Marathon, and several GPs who are members of BASM were among them. Terry Foxton, of Coventry finished in 2:37:46, a very good time, Bryan Parkinson inspired by the 1982 Loughborough course finished in 3 hours, and other finishers included Ian McGibbon, Peter Fettes, Hamish Kohler, Patrick Hoyte and Malcolm Bottomley. We have not heard about the performance of any of our many consultants and junior hospital doctors, though I have no doubt they were well scattered throughout the range of the thousands of participants.

Finally, again a plea from the Treasurer: PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE pay up the arrears of subscriptions for the present year. There are still some 300 members who have only paid £5, half the current rate and ALL HAVE BEEN SENT INDIVIDUAL REMINDERS. There are still 150 who have NOT PAID ANYTHING, and also have been sent individual reminders. The invoicing and collecting of these overdue subscriptions has involved the Association in having to employ staff unnecessarily, and held up more important and constructive work.