The Council participated in the B.M.A. Scientific Exhibition at Cardiff, July, 1953. The stand, staffed by members of the Council’s medical committees, afforded an opportunity to demonstrate to medical practitioners (by notes, diagrams, x-rays, and specimens) a general outline of current views on rheumatoid arthritis, spondylitis, osteo-arthritis, and gout. Rheumatism centres throughout the country combined in the demonstrations. A publication, “Notes on Arthritic Conditions”, compiled by the Council, was available at the stand for free distribution.

A special Coronation Lecture on “The Concept of Collagen Disease”, delivered by Professor Sir Henry Cohen on July 2, 1953, at the Royal Society of Medicine, attracted a large and distinguished audience.

At a Symposium on Phenybutazone (“Butazolidin”), held at the Royal Society of Medicine in November, 1953, the chief guest speakers were Dr. Otto Steinbrocker (New York), and Prof. Domenjoz (University of Saarbrücken).

The Council would shortly be publishing a “Handbook on Rheumatoid Arthritis”, for issue initially to all rheumatism centres in Great Britain and to the medical advisory committees of the Regional Hospital Boards. This handbook would be available free to general practitioners, and application for copies might be made to the General Secretary of the Council.

The first meeting of the new Expert Committee for Rheumatic Diseases of the World Health Organization was held in Geneva in August, 1953, when the Chairman had the honour to represent the United Kingdom and was appointed Chairman of the Expert Committee.

The Council had continued to subsidize the Heberden Society in its educational programme of lectures and demonstrations, and the Society, under its President, Lord Horder, had had a very successful year. Clinical meetings organized by the Society and held at the Middlesex Hospital, by kind permission of the Dean; at University College Hospital; at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton; and at 11 Chandos Street, London, had been very well attended.

The Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases, the official medium through which the activities of the Empire Rheumatism Council, the Heberden Society, the British Branch of the European Council, and kindred organizations in Europe and America were made known to the rheumatological world, had published during 1953 accounts of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Rheumatism Association, and those of the Dominions Councils affiliated to the Empire Rheumatism Council, the 8th Congress of the International League, held in Geneva in August, the Symposium on Fibrositis, held at the B.M.A. Annual Meeting in Cardiff in July, and the European Symposium on Cortisone, held at Milan in September. The sterling value of the Annals could not be too highly emphasized, and it was felt that everybody desirous of keeping himself abreast of the latest techniques of rheumatism research, treatment, and education should become a regular subscriber.

Commonwealth.—The Council continued to receive from its affiliated branches the reports of proceedings at their Annual General and Committee Meetings, and these showed the level at which rheumatism research and education was developing in those Dominions.

The Council had also been privileged to welcome several members, notably from Canada and New Zealand; they wished the Dominion affiliated organizations well, assuring them that they were always ready to place their experience and advice at their disposal.

OFFICERS, 1954-55

The following executive officers were re-elected:

Chairman: Dr. W. S. C. Copeman.
Vice-Chairman: Lord Webb-Johnson.
Emeritus Chairman: Lord Horder.
Hon. Medical Secretary: Dr. Oswald Savage.
Deputy Medical Secretary: Dr. R. M. Mason.

Visit of the Minister of Health

The Minister of Health, the Rt Hon. Iain Macleod, P.C., M.P., visited the rheumatism wards and the Empire Rheumatism Council’s laboratory at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth on May 17, 1954. He was accompanied by Lord Horder, Dr W. S. C. Copeman, and Sir Daniel Davies.
NEW YORK RHEUMATISM ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING, 1954

The Annual Meeting of the New York Rheumatism Association was held at Cornell University Medical College, New York, on April 20, 1954. Dr. Robert M. Lintz presided and the following papers were presented:


Group Therapy with Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis. By E. Rudd and V. Foster (French Hospital).

Effect of Long-Continued Cortisone Therapy on Bone Marrow of Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients. By H. H. Tillis (Beth Israel (Newark) Hospital).

Phenylbutazone in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Long-Term Evaluation. By S. J. Bossh, M. E. Ehrlich, and Otto Steinbrocker (Hospital for Joint Diseases). "

Simultaneous Administration of Anti-Coagulants and Cortisone. By W. B. Rawls (Polyclinic Hospital).

New Modification of the Streptococcus Agglutination Reaction in Rheumatoid Arthritis. By C. M. Plotz, F. Plishuk, and M. Wolf (Mt. Sinai Hospital).

Inhibition of Sensitized Sheep-Cell Agglutination Reaction in Rheumatoid Arthritis, and its Role in the Agglutination Test. By M. Ziff, P. Brown, J. Badin, and Currier McEwen (Bellevue Hospital, Third Division).


Clinical Physiology and Pathology of the Temporomandibular Joint. L. L. Schwartz, D.D.S. (Presbyterian Hospital), by invitation.

Use of Intravenous Trypsin in Rheumatoid Arthritis. By C. M. Plotz (Kings County Hospital, State University Division).

Studies on Metabolism of Adrenal Cortical Steroids in the Synovial Cavity in Rheumatoid Arthritis. By H. Wilson, R. Fairbanks, Currier McEwen, and M. Ziff (Bellevue Hospital, Third Division).


Role of the General Practitioner in Rheumatoid Diseases. By R. Klein (Greenpoint Hospital).

Modification of the Niacin Furfuryl Test by DPN in Rheumatoid Arthritis. By G. G. Haydu (Goldwater Memorial Hospital, Second Division).

Three Cases of Rheumatoid Arthritis aggravated by Pregnancy and controlled by Cortisone. By I. Gould and M. Wolf (Mt. Sinai Hospital).


RHEUMATOLOGY IN BRAZIL

It is regretted that Professor Jacques Houli's new appointment was incorrectly described in the last issue (Annals, 1954, 13, 71). Professor Houli holds the Chair of Rheumatology at the Post-Graduate School of Medicine of the Medical Society of Medicine and Surgery, Rio de Janeiro. Another Chair of Rheumatology, an even earlier foundation, is held by Professor Pedro Nava at the Policlinica do Rio de Janeiro.