HEBERDEN SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT, 1953

The attendances at the Society's meetings during 1953, and the quality of the papers presented, maintained as high a standard as in the previous year. It is with deep regret that the death is recorded of Dr. Mervyn H. Gordon, an Honorary Member of the Society whose wise counsel and guidance will be greatly missed. Mr. Charles Gray, Mr. C. Hamblen-Thomas, Dr. George Crosby, and Dr. M. H. L. Desmarais have resigned, and the following new members have been elected:

Ordinary Members: Drs J. H. H. Glyn, B. Cruickshank, Ronald Harris, R. R. H. Lovell, and K. A. Latter;


The society looks forward to a renewal of its financial "Grant-in-Aid" from the Empire Rheumatism Council, without which it might become necessary to curtail some of the society's educational work.

Activities.—The first clinical meeting of 1953 took place at the Middlesex Hospital on April 10, by kind permission of the Dean of the Medical School. Papers were presented by Prof. A. Kekwick, and Drs A. E. Kellie, A. A. Snaithe and A. P. Wade, B. B. Jacobs, D. K. Ford and P. O. Williams (Annals, 1953, 12, 239).

A clinical meeting was held at 11 Chandos Street, W.1, on May 15, at which papers were presented by Prof. J. H. Kellgren and Prof. A. Bradford Hill (Dr. J. J. R. Duthie deputizing), and Dr. H. F. West; Mr. J. P. Arden showed a film on "Judet Arthroplasty in Still's Disease" (Annals, 1953, 12, 239).

The Heberden Round was held on July 10 and 11 in Manchester and Buxton. The Manchester meeting took place in the new Clinical Sciences Building of the University of Manchester, where Professor Kellgren illustrated types of osteo-arthritis, and demonstrations were given by Drs J. Ball, H. G. B. Slack, and D. S. Jackson in the Rheumatism Research Laboratories. At the Royal Devonshire Hospital, Buxton, Drs J. C. Cregan, R. Harris, and H. S. Barber presented papers (Annals, 1953, 12, 239).

A clinical meeting, organized by Dr. Hugh Burt of the Department of Physical Medicine, was held at University College Hospital, London, on October 23, at which cases were demonstrated, and papers were presented by Professor M. L. Rosenheim and Dr. J. Anderson, Drs C. E. Dent and B. Senior, Drs H. Burt and S. Mattingley, and Drs W. D. Fletcher and D. A. Kininmonth. The meeting concluded with an amusing and instructive diagnostic quiz (Annals, 1953, 12, 359).

After the annual general meeting, held on December 5 at the Royal College of Surgeons, papers were presented by Drs F. J. Bach and A. Freedman (London), Dr. H. F. West (Sheffield), Dr. J. Sharp (Manchester), Dr. M. Thompson (introduced by Dr. J. J. R. Duthie, Edinburgh), and Dr. P. W. Darby (introduced by Prof. N. F. Maclagan, London) (Annals, 1953, 12, 359).

The Heberden Oration for 1953 was delivered by Sir Russell Brain, P.R.C.P., at the Royal College of Surgeons, on December 4, on "Spondylosis: the Known and the Unknown", and the Heberden Medal was presented to the orator by the President of the Society.

The annual dinner was held on December 4 at the Royal College of Surgeons: among the guests of honour were the Home Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, Q.C., M.P., Miss Patricia Hornsby-Smith, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health; the President of the Royal College of Physicians, Sir W. Russell Brain, who was accompanied by Lady Brain; the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, Sir John Charles; Sir Reginald Watson-Jones, Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons; and the editors of the British Medical Journal and the Lancet.

Library.—The Society's library, which is housed at the Ciba Foundation, 41 Portland Place, W.1, by kind permission of the Trustees, has received the following additions during the year:

Presented by the Apothecaries' Society:

KINGLAKE, R.
BLACKMORE, R.


PARKINSON


GARDNER

Essay on Nature of Gout, 1724.

TENNISON, R.

Presented by the Royal College of Surgeons:

HEBERDEN, W.

An Essay on Mithridatium and Theriaca, 1745.
Presented by Dr. R. M. Mason:
Cullen, W. First Lines on Practice of Physic, Vol. 1, 1802.

Presented by the Hon. Librarian, Dr. W. S. C. Copeman:
La Beaume, M. Cases of Indigestion, Gout, etc., cured by Galvanism (2nd edition), 1827.
Ellwanger, G. H. Meditations on Gout, 1897.
Falconer, W. Observations on Dr. Cadogan's Dissertation on the Gout, 1772.
Palmer, W. Dissertation Medica inauguralis de Podagra, 1830.

Deposited on permanent loan by the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath:
Ewart, W. Gout and Goutiness, 1896.
Bruce, W. Sciatica, 1913.
Beaumont, W. M. Rheumatic Iritis and other Reprints, 1914.
Lane, H. Differentiation in Rheumatic Diseases, 1892.
Cadogan, W. Essay on Gout (reprint), John Ruhrah, 1925.
Symes, J. O. The Rheumatic Diseases, 1905.
——— Treatment of Rheumatic Infections, published by Parke, Davis & Co., 1913.
Jones, R. L. Arthritis Deformans, comprising Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoarthritis and Spondylitis, 1909.
Glover, J. A. Incidence of Rheumatic Diseases, M.O.H. Report, 1924.
Scudamore, C. Orthopaxy—the Mechanical Treatment of Deformities, Deficiencies and Deficiencies of the Human Frame, 1869.
Hyde, S. Gout and Rheumatic Gout—a New Method of Cure, 1878.
Payne, J. Poynton, F. and Researches on Rheumatism, 1913.
Spender, J. K. Osteoarthritis, 1889.
Garrod, Sir A. Gout and Rheumatic Gout, 1876.
Wilde, P. Rheumatism, Cause, Prevention and Cure, 1893.
Duckworth, Sir D. Strangeways, T. S. P. A Treatise on Gout, 1889.
Cadogan, W. Rheumatoid Arthritis, 1905.
Adams, R. A Dissertation on the Gout, 1772.
Lortat-Jacob, and Les Sciatiqes, 1910.
Llewellyn, L. J. Rheumatism and Gout, 1927.
Bannatyne, G. Rheumatoid Arthritis, its Pathology, Morbid Anatomy and Treatment, 1896.
Wilde, P. A full and plain account of Gout, 1768.
Luff, A. P. Gout, Rheumatism and Arthritis, 1921.
Granville, J. M. Gout—its Pathology and Treatment, 1898.
Lindsay, J. Gout in its Clinical Aspects, 1885.
Roose, R. Gout, 1913.
Lane and Griffiths Gout and its relation to Diseases of the Liver and Kidneys, 1887.
Duckworth, D. The Rheumatic Diseases—So-called, 1890.
——— Bulletin of the Committee for Study of Special Diseases, 1805.

Purchased by the Heberden Society from the President's Fund:
ANON. A New System of the Gout and Rheumatism, 1717.

In accordance with the wishes of the Executive Committee, a full Catalogue of the Society's books is being prepared, and it is hoped to issue this with the next Annual Report.

It is much hoped that members will present to the library any books or items of rheumatological interest dating prior to 1914.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1954
May 7 and 8.—The Heberden Round will be held at Leeds and Harrogate.
October.—Clinical meeting at the Post-Graduate Medical School, Ducane Road, London, W.12.
December 3 and 4.—The Heberden Oration, annual general meeting, and annual dinner.

Titles and summaries of original communications which Members wish to make to the Society during 1954 should be sent to the Senior Hon. Secretary (Dr. G. R. Fearnley, Post-Graduate Medical School, Ducane Road,
London, W.12), together with an abstract not exceeding fifty words, at least one month before the date of meeting. Additional meetings will be arranged if necessary.

Abstracts of papers delivered are published in the Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases.

OFFICERS FOR 1954

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CLINICAL MEETINGS

The following papers were presented at a meeting held at the Royal College of Surgeons on December 5, 1953. Dr. J. Forestier (Aix-les-Bains) was present at the meeting and joined in the short discussions which followed each paper.

Dr. F. J. Bach and A. Freedman (London): Mepacrin and Butazolidin in Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Dr. H. F. West (Sheffield): Purified ACTH Gel—Clinical and Chemical Assays in Rheumatoid Patients.

Dr. J. Sharp (Manchester): Familial Vascular, Ligation, and Articular Calcification.†

Dr. M. Thompson (Edinburgh), introduced by Dr. J. J. R. Duthie: Osteitis Condensans Ilii and its Differentiation from Ankylosing Spondylitis.

Dr. P. W. Darby (London), introduced by Prof. N. F. Maclagan: Liver Function Tests in Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Professor R. E. Tunbridge took the chair at a meeting held on February 26, 1954, in the Meyerstein Theatre, Westminster Medical School.

Dr. Jacques Forestier showed a case of ankylosing spondylitis and the use of a supporting belt (originated by Dr. Loring T. Swaim, Boston, Mass.) which, while holding the spine upright, does not interfere with respiration. Before fitting the belt, Dr. Forestier described his routine treatment for correcting the kyphosis so common in these cases.

A case of Reiter’s syndrome was shown by Lt.-Col. J. P. Baird, R.A.M.C. A sergeant, aged 36, with 18 years’ service became extremely ill in the summer of 1953 with marked involvement of several joints, urethral discharge, and bilateral conjunctivitis. Keratodermia blenorrhagica developed a few weeks later. He was given cortisone by mouth, and although this discontinued when he developed pneumonia with a left pleural effusion in December, the improvement which had started on cortisone continued and his general condition was much improved.

Lt.-Col. R. J. G. Morrison, R.A.M.C., showed a patient, aged 21, with a peculiar congenital condition in which the infant had been delivered by forceps and was receiving deep x-ray treatment for what was probably a lymphadenoma. His blood chemistry was normal; x rays showed a well-marked periostitis reaction with new bone formation around all the long bones, including the clavicles. The fingers were not clubbed. Dr. Philip Ellman and Dr. Dudley Hart considered this to be a case of hypertrophic pulmonary osteopathy, but Mr. Coltart felt that this diagnosis was not entirely satisfactory.

A case of rheumatoid arthritis with lung changes was shown by Dr. J. C. Leonard. This patient, who had been previously shown at a clinical meeting of the Heberden Society 4 years ago, had developed thyrotoxicosis in 1930 which had been treated with deep x rays. Rheumatoid arthritis commenced shortly after the war and at this time clubbing appeared in the fingers and x rays showed fine reticulosis in the lung fields. It had previously been suggested that this might be a rheumatoid manifestation, but since then the patient had developed complete laryngeal obstruction, and he now had a permanent tracheotomy. This late complication of irradiation was thought to be a more likely cause of the lung changes. Dr. Dudley Hart commented on the fact that thyroidectomized patients also sometimes develop clubbing.

A case of nodular rheumatoid arthritis with extensive sheath swellings in a woman of 49 was shown by Dr. F. Dudley Hart and Mr. J. P. Reidy. Dr. Hart commented on the frequency of extensor sheath swellings as a diagnostic physical sign in rheumatoid arthritis and also on the scanty information concerning them in the current textbooks. This patient had developed time to time several dozen nodules ranging from 1 mm. to 3 in. across, and several had been excised with considerable relief of symptoms. Hydrocortisone had been injected into one extensor sheath swelling without effect.

Dr. J. G. Humble showed a case of rheumatoid arthritis with cloting defects on Butazolidin therapy, and suggested that in certain cases Butazolidin appeared to lower the prothrombin time of the blood. He stated that this defect could be rapidly corrected by giving vitamin K₁.

Dr. P. D. Samman showed a diabetic patient who had been receiving insulin for 23 years. Only in the last year had he noticed that his neck was getting larger so that he needed a larger size in collars. Examination showed thickening and hardening of the skin of the back of the neck, spreading down over the shoulders, the greater part of the chest, and the upper arms. Biopsy was made to a depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. without reaching the subcutaneous tissue. This thickening consisted of a very thin layer of epidermis, the remainder being a mass of collagen. Dr. Samman suggested that this was a peculiar case of scleroderma. Professor Tunbridge thought the condition was not connected with the diabetes in any way.