

VARIA

Prix Ganassini pour les Recherches Médicales

Concours européen ouvert aux médecins des pays membres du Marché Commun sur des études expérimentales et originales relatives à des sujets de biologie, de biochimie, d'anatomie pathologique. Chaque concurrent devra faire parvenir son mémoire le 30 octobre 1967. Pour tous renseignements, s'adresser à la Fondation Prof. D. Ganassini, Via Boncompagni 63, Milan. Le mémoire classé premier sera récompensé par un prix indivisible de Lit. 1 500 000. Un autre prix, également indivisible, de 500 000 lires récompensera le mémoire classé second.

European Cancer Meeting

The *European Cancer Meeting* will be held in Vienna, from July 3-5, 1967, following the Vth International Congress of Chemotherapy. The local Organizing Committee consists of Professor Dr. F. Seelich, Chairman, Dr. K. Karrer, Secretary, and Doz. Dr. K. H. Spitzzy, Treasurer. The main theme of the Meeting will be "Causes of Cancer" and cover the following three special topics: (1) Viruses; (2) Chemical Carcinogenesis; (3) Epidemiology. Notice of intended lectures should reach the Secretariat not later than March 15, 1967; applications must be accompanied by an abstract of not more than 500 words. These abstracts will be handed over to the participants, free of charge, at the Meeting. *Address of the Secretariat:* Sekretariat der Wiener Medizinischen Akademie für ärztliche Fortbildung, Alserstrasse 4, A-1090 Vienna (Austria).

International Meeting on Liver Regeneration

Montecatini Terme (Italy) - October 29-30, 1966

President: Prof. M. Messini (Rome)

An important International Conference on liver regeneration has been held in Montecatini Terme. Prof. Messini was the first who drew the attention to liver regeneration and urged surgeons to perform some operations to stimulate these regenerative effects.

Organized on three sections: medical, surgical and biological and on a Round Table about liver grafting, the Conference includes 174 reports and communications with more than 50 foreign scientists.

A look at the long series of the reports and communications shows that, following an explicit invitation of the Conference scientific organizing Committee, the partial hepatectomy surgery was not discussed: this regenerative effect, in fact, is present in a long series of hepatic diseases.

Several scientific papers were in connection with the regulation and stimulation of liver regeneration as well as of the liver restoring effects, damaged to a greater or minor extent by the various hepatic pathologic process in course. Some drugs of great clinic importance have been recently introduced in therapy and were studied under this particular point of view: among them the glucose and fructose phosphorylated esters, some aminoacids and a new salt formed by the glucose-1-phosphate and arginine intramolecular union was found to be particularly active upon

several liver affections, and the action of the enzyme discovered by *Fleming*, the lysozyme, has an essential importance in the viral hepatitis treatment and in the protection of liver phlogistic-necrotic lesions.

In surgical field the partial hepatectomy effects were discussed and above all the new liver grafting techniques; there is a great expectation for some new surgical techniques and their results in the last few years. The greatest obstacle in these very delicate surgeries is still the complex immunologic factor causing the grafting refusal: one of the most interesting research objects was the investigation of possible pharmacologic effects if different substances were able to prevent this refusal.

The Conference was sponsored by the Review "Epatologia" (Rome) and an abstract of it has been already published as a booklet of 92 pages.

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Gastroenterologie

Die nächste Jahresversammlung der Gesellschaft findet am 9. und 10. Juni 1967 in Bad Scuol-Tarasp-Vulpera/Schweiz unter dem Präsidium von Prof. Dr. *N. Markoff* statt.

Hauptthemen

1. Die nicht malignen antralen Magenerkrankungen: Pathophysiologie, Röntgen-diagnostik, Klinik und Therapie, Rundtischgespräch.

2. Neue Untersuchungsmethoden der Leber, der Gallenwege und des Pankreas: Gallensäurestoffwechsel-Untersuchungen, Leber- und Pankreas-Scintigraphie, percutane intrahepatische Cholangiographie, neuere angiographische Untersuchungsmethoden der Leber.

Anmeldungen von Kurzvorträgen zum Thema mit Inhaltsangabe von höchstens 1 Schreibmaschinenseite im Doppel sind bis spätestens 1. Februar 1967 an den Präsidenten der Gesellschaft, Prof. Dr. *N. Markoff*, Chefarzt der Medizinischen Klinik des Kantonsspitals, CH-7000 Chur/Schweiz, zu richten.

Experimental Biology and Medicine

In September 1966 30 scientists from 10 different countries met in Valbella near Chur (Switzerland) for a conference on Experimental Biology and Medicine. The main theme discussed by these specialists in the fields of genetics, biochemistry, biophysics, microbiology and virology, as well as experimental medicine, was the control mechanisms of the differentiation and the dedifferentiation of cells – the search for the chemical nature of matter which determines the development of the embryonic cells into muscle, nerve, cartilage or even cancer cells.

The conference, which was supported by NATO, German ministries and the Volkswagen Foundation, was initiated and organised by Professor *Emmi Hagen* (Bonn), Professor *F. Zilliken* (Marburg) and Dr. *W. Wechsler* (Cologne). The conference was held under the patronage of the publishing firm S. Karger AG (Basel) who will bring out the details report.

The results of the scientific discussions of the international conference were so stimulating and constructive that it was decided to hold a similar conference at the same place on two years' time to discuss further developments in research.