

## GENERAL NOTES

THE attention of members is drawn to the *EXCERPTA MEDICA*, Section XI, which is a most valuable international abstracting service as it gives each month abstracts of all the important papers in Oto-Rhino-Laryngology. The subscription is £4 8s. od. a year and the agents for Great Britain, the Dominions and the Commonwealth (excluding Canada) are E. and S. Livingstone Ltd., 16 and 17 Teviot Place, Edinburgh. We regret that in previous issues the price was incorrectly stated as five dollars or the equivalent.

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### BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGISTS

#### ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND EAR, NOSE AND THROAT OPERATIONS

THE attention of members is drawn to the Medical Memorandum on Poliomyelitis, No. 93222/7/63, dated July, 1954, issued by the Ministry of Health and Department of Health for Scotland. The relevant passages in this report, which are of interest to Otolaryngologists, are as follows :

#### 1. EPIDEMIOLOGY.

(a) The present evidence suggests that the portal of entry is usually the mouth and that the primary site of infection is in the mucosa of the oropharynx or the small intestine.

(b) In bulbar poliomyelitis following tonsillectomy it seems that the virus most probably travels to the medulla along the cranial nerves supplying the pharynx.

(c) It is fairly generally accepted that specific trauma, especially tonsillectomy, may precipitate paralysis.

#### 2. CONTROL MEASURES : AVOIDANCE OF CERTAIN TRAUMA.

(a) *Tonsillectomy.* The postponement of tonsillectomy when poliomyelitis reaches unusual proportions in a locality is strongly advised, particularly because when poliomyelitis follows recent tonsillectomy, serious illness, with bulbar involvement, appears to be more frequent. The Medical Officer of Health can assist by informing local hospital authorities when and where the incidence of the disease is unusually high, so that the surgeon may then take this hazard into account before deciding to operate.

(b) *Tooth Extractions.* There is very little evidence that tooth extractions may predispose to bulbar poliomyelitis. Nevertheless as with ear, nose and throat surgery the possibility should be kept in mind by dentists undertaking non-urgent extractions in areas of epidemic prevalence.

## General Notes

### THE INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLOGY (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

330-332 GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON, W.C.1.

THE ACADEMIC BOARD announces the following SPECIAL LECTURES to be given in the Lecture Hall of the Institute at Gray's Inn Road. They are open to all members of the Specialty and to postgraduate students. No tickets of admission are required.

*Saturday, December 8th, 1956, at 11.30 a.m.*

The surgical management of cancer of the jaws. DR. HAROLD F. SCHUKNECHT of Detroit.

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### OTOLARYNGOLOGY LECTURES 1956-57

THE following lectures, arranged jointly by the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Institute of Laryngology and Otology, will be delivered in the Lecture Hall of the College, at 5.30 p.m.

1956

December 6th. Mr. E. J. Radley-Smith. Modern application of the physiology of the pituitary gland.

1957

January 31st. Professor E. W. Walls. A critical anatomical assessment of certain signs and symptoms in the field of oto-rhinolaryngology.

February 28th. Dr. D. B. Fry. Speech and language.

April 4th. Dr. R. D. Hoare. Angiography in diseases of the ear, nose and throat.

May 2nd. Mr. C. S. Hallpike. The scientific basis and clinical practice of Neuro-Otology.

July 4th. Dr. W. H. Kelleher. The modern approach to the treatment of respiratory defects in poliomyelitis.

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### NORTH OF ENGLAND OTOLARYNGOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE Fifty Guinea Prize will be awarded again in 1957 for original work in otolaryngology carried out in the North of England.

Entries (three copies) should be sent to the Secretary, before August 1st, 1957.

The investigation must have been carried out during the tenure of a senior registrar, registrar, house officer, or clinical assistant post.

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### SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

MEETING: WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S.A., MAY 5TH-10TH, 1957

THE Sixth International Congress of Otolaryngology will meet in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., on May 5th-10th, 1957. Preliminary announcement was sent to every otolaryngologist of record in the world in early autumn, 1955, asking that those interested indicate this fact by returning an enclosed card. A second notice with further information will soon be sent to those who returned these cards. If you wish to receive the second announcement and the original one did not reach you or you did not return the card, please notify Paul H. Holinger, M.D., General Secretary, 700 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill., U.S.A., so that your name may be placed on the active mailing list.

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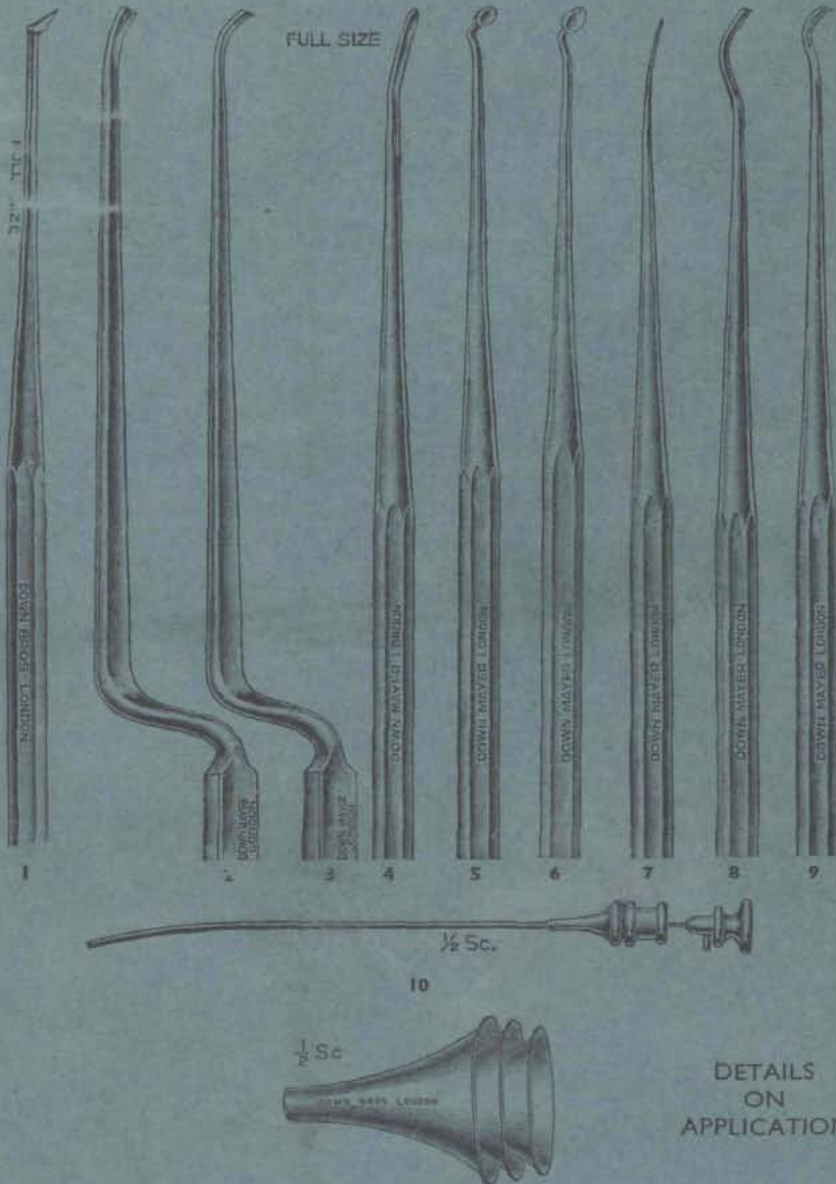
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