

Notes and Announcements

Dr. André Barbeau, Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences, was recently honoured with a prestigious award for scientific contributions by l'Association des Médecins de Langue Française du Canada. Dr. Barbeau is Director of Neurobiology at l'Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal. He is the author of more than 424 articles and some 30 textbooks or book chapters. An internationally recognised authority, his special expertise includes the fields of neurological genetics, toxicology, and the metabolism and pathophysiology of Parkinson's disease.

Dr. S.J. Peerless has recently been named first appointee to the C.G. Drake Professorship in Neurosurgery by the University of Western Ontario. The professorship was established to honor Dr. Drake for his internationally recognized achievements particularly in the area of brain surgery. The professorship will be financed from the C.G. Drake Fund, an endowment held by Western, and monies from University Hospital. The term of the professorship is five years.

Dr. Peerless is a native of Pioneer Mines, British Columbia and earned a MD degree from the University of British Columbia in 1961. He has been a faculty member in Western's Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences since 1975. He is currently Chairman of the Department's Division of Neurosurgery and Chief of Neurosurgery at University Hospital.

A Family Information Handbook on Alzheimer's Disease has recently been published by the Department of National Health and Welfare in cooperation with the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Single copies are available in English and French from Alzheimer Society, National Office, 185 Bloor St. East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 3J3. There is no charge for the handbook but there is a \$2.00 postage and handling charge.

8th International Congress of Neurological Surgery The World Federation of Neurological Societies is comprised of continental organizations and national and international Neurosurgical Societies. At present in excess of fifty societies are registered and at each congress, held every four years, applications for membership of new societies are considered.

While the work of the Federation is carried out throughout the year, the main event is the Congress which is held every four years. This year the Canadian Neurosurgical Society has the honour of hosting the event.

The Executive Committee consists of Alan Hudson, President; Skip Peerless, Scientific Director; Harold Hoffman, Finances; and Stanley Schatz, Local Arrangements. Professor Schatz is the current President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society and has thus served as the main link between the Congress organization and the Canadian Neurosurgical Society.

Skip Peerless has organized the Scientific Program which includes over 800 speakers from 50 countries. The Canadian neuroscientists, thus, have a unique opportunity of interacting with these experts at Plenary Sessions, Luncheon Discussion Groups, multiple simultaneous sessions and poster displays.

The Governor General will open the proceedings at a ceremony on Sunday afternoon preceding the week of Scientific Meetings. On Monday, July 8, the circular Roy Thompson Hall is reserved for our sole use and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra will entertain the Canadian Neurosurgeons and their guests from

around the world. On Tuesday evening, July 9, an informal barbecue will be held on Toronto Island and the Canadian water sports extravaganza will, this year, feature 8 man war canoe races in International competition. The banquet will be on Thursday evening, July 11 and the meeting will terminate at lunch time on Friday, July 12.

There is strong Canadian representation in the Scientific Meeting. Charles Drake will give the Penfield Address and this will be the centrepiece of the Scientific Program. Jules Hardy has organized a major pituitary symposium. Harold Hoffman has put together an outstanding international panel on Pediatric Neurosurgery. The long awaited result of the EC-IC Bypass Study, centered on London, Ontario, will be announced during the course of the meeting.

All Canadian neuroscientists are welcome and it is particularly important that all Canadian neurosurgeons fulfill their responsibilities as hosts of the event. The recently opened Toronto Convention Centre forms a sparkling background to the Scientific Program and the entire meeting will take place at that facility. Major downtown hotels are all within easy walking distance and a particular feature of the meeting is that University housing is available on a bed and breakfast basis at \$28.00 per day. Thus, it is hoped that all Canadian neurosurgeons in training will be able to participate in the meeting. Participation of young neurosurgeons has been encouraged by awarding of substantial cash prizes for prize essays. There have been numerous Canadian entries in this competition.

The President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society, Stan Schatz, will be calling on all members of the society to assist him in the actual production of the meeting. I join him in expressing a very warm welcome to all Canadian neuroscientists.

*Alan R. Hudson,
President of the Congress*

Obituary — Dr. Keith Byron Seamans died in St. John, New Brunswick Wednesday, February 6th, 1985. Keith, or Dukie as he was known to his friends, was born in St. George, New Brunswick where he worked as a pharmacist before he took pre-medical training at Mount Allison University and graduated from Dalhousie in Medicine in 1959. After a few years in general practice near Lake Superior, he went to the Montreal Neurological Institute where he completed his Neurology training. During this time he collaborated with Dr. Pierre Gloor in an important study on seizures occurring in patients undergoing open heart surgery. After receiving a Fellowship in Neurology, he returned to his native New Brunswick where he was the first, and for many years, the only neurologist in the Province. Dr. Seamans was a very careful and astute clinician and completely devoted to excellence in patient care. He was also a demanding teacher and had a great interest in the neurological education of medical students and interns, his now neurological colleagues. While seldom able to get away to meetings, he nevertheless was an avid reader and maintained an active academic interest. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and son Jeremy. Dukie will be sorely missed by his friends and colleagues as well as the many patients who depended upon him.

*Robert F. Nelson
Ottawa, Ontario*