

nm/ LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to bring to your attention several events and developments in which the Society is now, or will become, involved in the near future. First, a "Session on Nuclear Medicine" will be presented at the Annual Convention of the American Medical Association on June 22nd in Chicago. This session entitled "Clinical Applications of Nuclear Medicine for the Practicing Physician" will be held under the section on special topics. The program was organized by Doctors Eugene Saenger and James J. Smith and was designed to attract the attention of the general practitioner.

The current status of our continuing quest for an American Board of Nuclear Medicine is progressing satisfactorily according to Dr. Bender, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Competence and Certification. The concept of a conjoint board has been approved by the Advisory Board for Medical Specialties and also by the AMA Council on Medical Education. The remaining hurdle is to obtain approval by the AMA House of Delegates. If their vote next June is favorable, an American Board of Nuclear Medicine could be established by July 1971.

The Society and its Education and Research Foundation are co-sponsoring an international meeting on "Radionuclides in Nephrology" which is being held in New York City at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on January 25-27, 1971. The meeting is also sponsored by the International Society of Nephrology and has been organized by Doctors M. Donald Blaufox of the Albert Einstein School of Medicine and J. L. Funck-Brentano (France). This symposium will be devoted to the use of radionuclides in the measurements of blood flow, renal hemodynamics, exchanges, kinetics, compartments, clearances, evaluation of renal function and immunoassay of angiotensin and renin. It is anticipated to be equally as successful and valuable to the attendees as was the first meeting in 1967 in Liège, Belgium.

At the mid-winter meeting in Dallas last January the Society again pledged its support of the World Federation meeting in 1971. Following the meeting I appointed Dr. Monte Blau as Chairman of a special committee on "Liaison Between the Society and the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology." This action was taken to find out more specifically how the Society could lend its assistance to the World Federation, particularly in such areas as commercial exhibits.

Dr. Blau has given me permission to quote from his report following a trip to Montreal. "I have come to believe that the meeting is a necessary and important one and that the planning is sound. The scientific essence of the meeting is an attempt to evaluate the real impact that nuclear medicine has made on medical practice over the past 25 years. This is the first proposal I have heard of for people in nuclear medicine to get together with representatives from the various medical specialties in an attempt to evaluate the true contributions of the use of isotopes. Dr. Sternberg has been working long and hard at planning this meeting. He has obtained the basic support from the University of Montreal without which the meeting would be almost impossible. The University sponsors similar meetings each year and has long experience and an adequate staff and facilities for running meetings of this type."

I concur wholeheartedly with Dr. Blau in his recommendation that the Society support the Montreal meeting of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology to the full extent of its technical, administrative and scientific capabilities. Personally, I take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Sternberg for his hard work, perseverance and successful negotiations in organizing this meeting which promises to be a highly successful event and an important landmark in the history of nuclear medicine.

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