

ABOUT OURSELVES

1. New President of the Society

By the time this issue of the journal is published, Air Commodore B. L. Kapur would have taken over as the new President of our Society. We congratulate Air Vice Marshal S. P. Bhatia on his appointment as Director of Medical Services, Army Headquarters, in the rank of Major General.

Air Vice Marshal S. P. Bhatia has been the President of the Society since October, 1955 and under his able guidance the Society has made noteworthy progress. It was due to his efforts that the importance of Aviation Medicine has been fully appreciated in India and it has been accepted as a speciality on par with other conventional specialities. The School of Aviation Medicine established at Bangalore also owes its existence to his untiring efforts.

We welcome Air Commodore B. L. Kapur as our new President and know that the Society will prosper under his able guidance.

2. Sixth Annual Meeting

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Aero Medical Society was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi from 21 Feb. '59 to 24 Feb. '59. The Meeting was inaugurated by Shri. V. K. Krishna Menon, Minister of Defence, and was attended by a distinguished gathering which included the Director General of the Armed Forces Medical Services, the Scientific Adviser to the Minister of Defence, Directors of the Indian Council of Medical Research, All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, Civilian Scientists, prominent Doctors and other Senior Medical Officers of the Army and Navy.

The Chief guest speaker was Prof. J. B. S. Haldane who spoke on "Physiological Problems at High Pressure". His talk is published in this issue.

The papers read at the meeting evoked much interest and discussion.

At the Business Session of the Meeting, the Constitution and Bye-Laws of the Society were amended to provide for prominent Military/Civilian Scientists who have contributed to the growth of Aviation Medicine, becoming members of the Society.

3. Evening Party

The Evening Party to meet Prof. and Mrs. Haldane was held on 21 Feb. '59. The Service Chiefs and officers of the three Services, prominent Civilian Scientists and Doctors with their families attended.

4. Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the Society was held at the Air Force Officers Mess on 23 Feb. '59. The guests who attended the Dinner included Air Marshal S. Mukerjee, Lt. Gen.

B. Chaudhuri, Air Vice Marshal D. A. R. Nanda, Maj. Gen. B. M. Rao, Surg. Capt. A. K. Dev and the Principal Staff Officers of Air Headquarters. The Air Force Band was in attendance.

5. School of Aviation Medicine

The following courses were conducted at the Air Force School of Aviation Medicine during the years 1958 and 1959:—

1958

(a) <i>For Medical Officers</i>	Number of Courses
(i) Introductory Course.	3
(ii) Primary Course.	1
(b) <i>For G. D. Officers</i>	
Aviation Medicine Indoctrination Course.	4

1959

(a) <i>For Medical Officers.</i>	
(i) Introductory Course.	3
(ii) Primary Course	2
(b) <i>For G.D. Officers.</i>	
Aviation Medicine Indoctrination Course.	3

6. Deputations and Study Leave

(a) Wing Commander Ajit Nath returned to India in September, 1958 after the completion of an attachment to the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough.

(b) Squadron Leader P. V. Rao left India on 28.4.58 for U. K. to study the various Aero Medical problems of jet aircraft in general and Canberras in particular. He returned on 27.6.58.

(c) Squadron Leader A. K. Pasu attended the 1st World Congress on Aviation Medicine at Brussels from 23.9.58 to 27.9.58 and proceeded to England to attend the IIIrd Scientific Session of the Joint Committee on Aviation Pathology. He returned in Oct. 58.

(d) Squadron Leader C. B. J. Alexander proceeded to U. K. for attachment to the Acceleration Department of the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough and returned in 1959.

(e) Squadron Leader B. Bhatia proceeded to Canada in March, 1959 for training under the Colombo Plan. He returned in September, 1959.

(f) Squadron Leader V. S. N. Murty proceeded to U. K. on Study Leave for Advanced Studies in Otorhinolaryngology. He returned on 6th November, 1959.

(g) Squadron Leader K. K. Majumder has proceeded to U.K. for attachment to the High Altitude Physiology Department of the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough.

(h) The following officers have been graded/classified as specialists in Aviation Medicine:—

Classified Specialists

Wing Commander Ajit Nath

Wing Commander J. H. F. Manekshaw

Graded Specialists

Squadron Leader K. K. Majumder

Squadron Leader C.B.J. Alexander

(i) Air Commodore B. L. Kapur attended the 31st Annual Meeting of the Aero Space Medical Association at Miami in May 60. He also visited various Aero Medical Installations in U.S.A., Canada and the U. K. He returned back at the end of June, 60.

7. Change of Secretaryship

A.D.M.S. (A/M) Medical Directorate, Air Headquarters took over the Secretaryship of the Aero Medical Society from the A.D.H.