

NOTES AND NEWS

VA REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

The Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service conducted a regional training program in prosthetics and orthotics in San Francisco May 20-22, 1970. A total of 130 people attended the daily sessions. In line with its mission of disseminating research results so that all disabled people may benefit, the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service encouraged the participation in the program by some 75 clinicians from the non-VA medical community.

The latest advances in prosthetics and orthotics were presented to the audience of physicians, therapists, prosthetists, orthotists, and Prosthetic Representatives. Active audience participation enriched the presentations.

The success of the program was indicated by a remark made by a leading member of the prosthetics industry: "Programs like this enhance the image of the Veterans Administration."

The San Francisco program was the latest in a series held several times a year in widely scattered parts of the country. In the coming fiscal year similar programs will be held in Richmond, Virginia; Miami, Florida; and Albuquerque, New Mexico. All these locations are sites of existing or planned VA Prosthetics Treatment Centers.

INFORMATION ON READING MATERIALS FOR THE BLIND AVAILABLE FROM A SINGLE SOURCE

In the past, persons needing information about reading materials for visually handicapped people had to write to different sources. Today, that information is available in the American Foundation for the Blind's new publication, "Sources of Reading Materials for the Visually Handicapped." It consists of 22 separate sections, each on a specific aspect of blind readers' needs. The first sections available are as follows:

- Braille publishers
- Educational materials
- Publishers of large type books
- Reference books available in braille and large type
- Volunteers
- Learning braille
- Sources of braille music
- Large type periodicals

“Talking Book Topics” and “Braille Book Review”
“Sources of Reading Materials for the Visually Handicapped” is available on request from the Publications Division, American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011, a national clearinghouse for information about blindness.

REHABILITATION ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICE

The National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering, Pompton Lakes, N.J., announced the availability of an engineering consulting service for the handicapped, by mail on a national basis. The service is *not* available, initially, to handicapped individuals themselves because many types of equipment can safely be used only after being recommended and/or fitted by qualified personnel. The service is intended for rehabilitation counselors, therapists, and other professionals in the field of rehabilitation.

Hospitals, health agencies, rehabilitation centers, and other organizations are invited to apply to the Institute (write to: Rehabilitation Engineering—Pompton Lakes, N.J. 07442) for an Organizational Membership. The cost is \$100.00 per year. The member agency will receive quarterly copies of the “Rehabilitation Engineering Newsletter,” and may write or telephone the Institute at any time for information pertaining to technical aids for the handicapped.

The annual fee of \$100.00 will entitle the member agency to 35 mail consultations plus up to 20 telephone consultations, without any cost. Larger agencies which may request more than these consultations can obtain more, at an additional cost of \$6.00 per letter, or \$3.00 per call, plus the telephone toll charge, if any.

Rehabilitation professionals in private practice, or employed by very small agencies unable to utilize the benefits of the Organizational Membership, can apply to the Institute for “Professional Affiliate Membership” at an annual cost of \$25.00. This membership results in receipt of the “Rehabilitation Engineering Newsletter,” and entitles the member to as many as 10 written consultations plus up to 10 telephone consultations. Additional written and telephone consultations can be obtained for \$6.00 and \$3.00 each, respectively, so long as the person is a member in good standing.

The purpose of the membership plan is to ensure the continued high quality and practical utility of the Institute’s replies to requests for information. The Institute is a non-profit agency having available to it data on over 4000 devices for the handicapped—almost every device known and available from any source throughout the world. The Institute is not obligated to any supplier, and is able to report honestly and objectively on all devices.

VA's ORTHOPEDIC SHOP SUPERVISORS MEET

A three-day technical and administrative conference was attended by the supervisors of VA's Orthopedic Shops throughout the country in the New York offices of the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service, April 13-15, 1970. Many administrative and procedural matters were discussed which should improve the effectiveness of the shops. The latest orthotics techniques were demonstrated (Fig. 1).

SELECTED ARTICLES FROM "ARTIFICIAL LIMBS"

For some years many requests have been received for reprints of classic articles from the journal ARTIFICIAL LIMBS, now cosponsored by the Committee on Prosthetics Research and Development and the Committee on Prosthetic-Orthotic Education. Often the articles needed are from issues long out of print. Publication of that journal has been supported by the Veterans Administration, initially alone and in later years, jointly with other agencies.

Some articles, e.g., on biomechanical principles, are inherently timeless. Others are of historic interest, any many are of enduring value to clinicians from some or all of the many disciplines involved in prosthetics.

Requests for past issues have come for a variety of reasons. Some of the recipients of early issues have lost, misplaced, or "lent" their copies. Library copies, particularly if unbound, have tended to disappear. Certain issues have had special appeal to specific professions. For example, numerous psychology professors have requested copies of the classic report "Adjustment to Misfortune" by Dembo et al. Even though we were obviously unable to honor requests for individual copies for each student in a class and could supply only one or a few copies for the appropriate library's Reserved Book Room, the supply of that issue quickly dwindled. In addition, numerous research laboratories and engineers and almost a generation of physicians, therapists, prosthetists, counselors, psychologists, and other clinicians have entered the unique field of prosthetics since the January 1954 issue inaugurated ARTIFICIAL LIMBS. Many of these new people have received recent issues but obviously lack the earlier issues containing classic papers which are still so frequently cited in references in current papers in that journal, in the Bulletin of Prosthetics Research, and elsewhere.

To meet these many needs, we are pleased to announce that 22 articles, considered timeless and fundamental in nature, will be printed in one volume. The price of the book will be \$17.00. It may be purchased from:

Krieger Publishing Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 542
Huntington, N.Y. 11743

Prepaid orders will be sent postpaid.



FIGURE 1.—Administrative Conference for Orthopedic Shop Supervisors, New York, April 13–15, 1970. Seated (L to R): Emilio Placido, VAH, Boston; Michael Merva, VAH, Long Beach; F. A. Rodriguez, VAH, Albuquerque; Roger M. Chase, VAC, Togus; Rex E. Harrison, VAC, Los Angeles; Walter J. Piotrowicz, VAH, Hines; Hubert J. McKee, VAC, Martinsburg; Theo. L. Kruzel, VAH, Minneapolis. Middle Row (L to R): Eugene H. Cannaday, VAC, San Juan; Harvey L. Hobbs, VAC, Des Moines; Donald R. Keck, VAH, Jefferson Barracks; John W. Potter, VAH, Dallas; Walter J. Jans, VAH, Memphis; John E. Clegg, VAH, Jefferson Barracks; Leonard V. Dicke, VAH, Ft. Howard; Thomas L. Byers, VAH, Richmond; Jesse L. Moore, Jr., VAH, Nashville; Ivan Norris, VAH, Buffalo; Clive Weaver, VAH, Houston; Joseph Oldham, VAC, Temple; J. A. Guillory, VAH, New Orleans. Top Row (L to R): W. G. Holsberg, PSAS, Washington, D.C.; David N. Dupree, VAH, Miami; Neal W. Way, VAH, Kansas City; Kenneth P. LaBlanc, VAH, Bronx; Hugh G. Mantooh, VAH, Columbia; W. M. Bernstock, PSAS, New York; Lester W. Patterson, VAH, Cleveland; Thomas C. Hand, VAH, Louisville; Harvey W. Pletcher, VAC, Bay Pines; Raymond E. Dean, VAH, Portland; Paul M. Johnson, VAH, Atlanta.

FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN 1968 SHOWS SMALLEST INCREASE IN 13 YEARS

The Federal Government obligated \$1.4 billion to universities and colleges in fiscal year 1968 for research and development, according to a report recently released by the National Science Foundation. This represents an increase of 5 percent over fiscal year 1967, an increase largely offset by increasing costs.^a The average annual increase of Federal obligations to universities and colleges for R&D for the years 1955–1967 was more than 21 percent.

The report, *Federal Support for Research and Development at Universities and Colleges and Selected Nonprofit Institutions, FY 1968, A Report to the President and Congress (NSF 69-33)*, also shows that two agencies, Department of Agriculture and Department of Defense, the

^a Estimates contained in the President's Budget for FY 1971 (Special Analysis Q) indicate that FY 1970 Federal R&D funds going to the Nation's institutions of higher education will show the first decline in the 14 years that such data have been collected.

latter for the second year running, reported cutbacks in academic R&D funding in FY 1968. The most significant reduction was \$21 million in defense research and development.

While the level of R&D funding by Federal agencies at universities and colleges increased by approximately 5 percent, the number of institutions receiving Federal R&D support rose by more than 8 percent, from 573 in FY 1967 to 620 in FY 1968.

The report is the first study prepared in accordance with the requirements specified in Section 3 (a) (7) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 as amended in August 1968. In addition to Federal academic R&D obligations, the report includes data on Federal obligations for R&D plant to institutions of higher education and comparable data for selected nonprofit organizations. Data on academic institutions and their associated Federally Funded Research and Development Centers are extracted from data collected for the Committee on Academic Science and Engineering (CASE) of the Federal Council for Science and Technology.

Copies of the report are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for \$1.25 per copy.

UPPER-EXTREMITY IMMEDIATE POSTSURGICAL PROSTHETICS

In January 1968, Dr. James C. Thoroughman, Chief, Surgical Services (now retired), and Dr. S. J. Ritchey, orthopedic consultant, of the Atlanta VA Hospital, attended a special seminar in Seattle, Washington, conducted by the Veterans Administration's Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service. This seminar was for surgical and prosthetic instruction in immediate postsurgical prosthetics and the management of lower-extremity amputees. Upon their return from this special program, Surgical Services of the Atlanta VA Hospital in conjunction with the Emory University Residency Program in Surgery and Orthopedics performed many such surgical and prosthetic procedures. Excellent results were obtained in the below-knee amputation prosthesis, with only fair results in the above-knee amputation prosthetic procedures.

An outgrowth of this program has been the immediate postsurgical prosthetic management of upper-extremity amputees. Seven such amputees have been fitted with excellent results. Three of these special prosthetic fittings have been primary amputations, one of which was above the elbow and two below the elbow; four of the fittings were done on below-elbow amputees that required surgical revision. All of the fittings have given excellent results, and it is intended to use this procedure in future upper-extremity amputations on a routine basis.

It is well known that the procedure of immediate postsurgical prosthetics in the management of upper-extremity amputees is not novel

and is being performed in varying degrees across the country. In Atlanta, Dr. Laughlin and Mr. James Stanford, C.P., have performed approximately 15 of these procedures.

The purpose of this note is to point out the excellent results obtained in Atlanta and to highly recommend this procedure for other services.

ANNUAL REPORT ON GOVERNMENT PATENT POLICY

Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, Chairman of the Federal Council for Science and Technology, has announced the publication of the FCST Annual Report on Government Patent Policy, dated December 1968.

The report assesses the effectiveness of the 1963 Presidential Statement of Government Patent Policy based on the information available from 5 years' operation, and describes the progress made to date by the Committee on Government Patent Policy and the Patent Advisory Panel.

The report contains recommendations of the Committee suggesting specific language changes to the 1963 Presidential Policy statement based upon the findings of the Harbridge House Study on Government Patent Policy and the 5 years' operating experience of the Patent Advisory Panel.

In addition, the report contains:

An up-to-date list, by agency, of all the pertinent statutes, regulations, orders, memoranda, and materials governing the allocation of rights to inventions arising from Government-sponsored research.

A statistical analysis of the Government's patent operations for fiscal years 1963 through 1968, together with some observations and conclusions drawn from the data compiled for these years.

The December 1968 Annual Report may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 for 45¢. A check or money order made payable to the Superintendent of Documents must accompany your order.

MONOGRAPH ON SOCIAL FORCES AND BLINDNESS

Today, man must deal with the complexities of the world around him. This is true of the blind person as well as the sighted.

"The Social Sources of Adjustment to Blindness," by Irving Faber Lukoff and Martin Whiteman, published by the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th St., New York, N.Y. 10011, is a monograph about the social forces that influence the adaptation of blind persons, and is available for \$3.25.

This book is the result of the conclusions made of a study derived from interviews with almost 500 blind persons selected from all walks of life. The impact of the blind person's immediate social environment

is examined for an understanding of why some blind people are independent and others dependent. The investigation moves on to the way voluntary organizations and rehabilitation services affect the environment for blind people. Finally, the study analyzes the social conditions that help to explain when blind persons do and do not conform to the standards of behavior they encounter from different groups of persons.

"HUMAN LOCOMOTOR ENGINEERING" CONFERENCE

This conference is to be held at the University of Sussex, September 7-10, 1971, and is being arranged by the Automatic Control and Manipulative and Mechanical Handling Groups, with the cosponsorship of Professional Group C.6 of the Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Institute of Measurement and Control.

Papers will be sought on as wide a basis as possible and it is planned to acquire contributions by direct invitation and by a call for papers. The provisional scope of the conference is given below but it is emphasized that it is not restricted. It is intended as a guide.

Prospective authors are asked to submit provisional titles as soon as possible, to be followed by 200-400 words by June 30, 1970, at the latest.

The scope of the conference is as follows:

An exploration of the relations between physiological and engineering approaches to function of the human locomotor system.

Electrical and other devices for the stimulation of muscle activity in disabled limbs.

Research, design, and assessment of powered prostheses and orthoses for upper and lower limbs.

Synopses should be sent to W. J. Wall, Committee Secretary, The Institution of Mechanical Engineers. The address is: The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London, S.W.1., England.

BLIND WOMEN TAUGHT TO APPLY OWN MAKE-UP

Today, a blind woman can apply her own make-up by using a facial-touch "geography" method. This method, devised by the American Foundation for the Blind, enables a blind woman to use cosmetics after she learns—by touch—the planes, contours, skin tones, textures, and basic cleansing patterns for her particular face.

This discovery resulted in a nationwide series of Workshops on Cosmetology limited to those who work with blind people. The first series of these Workshops began in Dallas, Tex., in February 1970, and continued through Little Rock, Ark., Daytona Beach, Fla., and ended

in Chicago, Ill., late in April 1970. The workshops taught approximately 160 instructors who in turn will teach blind women the tactile facial "geography" technique.

**REVISED IMMEDIATE POSTSURGICAL PROSTHETICS MANUAL
AVAILABLE**

The new manual, "The Management of Lower-Extremity Amputations—Surgery, Immediate Postsurgical Prosthetic Fitting, Patient Care," designated as TR 10-6, is now available for purchase from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The price is \$1.50.

The book supersedes the manual "Immediate Postsurgical Prosthetics in the Management of Lower Extremity Amputees," TR 10-5, and describes the latest techniques employed by the Seattle, Washington, Prosthetics Research Study group in an extensive, detailed, step-by-step format.

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON PROSTHETICS AND
ORTHOTICS REORGANIZED**

The International Committee on Prosthetics and Orthotics (ICPO) of the International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled has been reorganized.

The ICPO membership is appointed by the president of the ISRD among internationally recognized persons within the different aspects of rehabilitation, without reference to nationality.

Originally, the membership of the Committee consisted of five persons, whereas the full membership at present amounts to 15 persons as limited by ISRD regulations. However, an Associate Membership of about 300 professionals does effectively cover all the regions of the world.

In order to strengthen the program and to facilitate information, communication, etc., regional subcommittees have been established for Latin America, North America, and for the Far East.

With the structure planned for the future the membership will be based on national contingencies, and with representation of national delegates.

The Committee has in particular invested efforts and funds in the following fields:

1. information
2. education
3. investigation
4. research

The information services are provided by the current operation of

the secretariat in Copenhagen, the periodical "Prosthetics International," and other circulars.

The education program started in the year 1957 when the first international course was held, especially emphasizing the team approach in prosthetics and orthotics. This course was followed by a chain of similar courses, seminars, and symposia. More recently, the connection between medical science, engineering, and rehabilitation has been taken up for consideration.

The investigations deal with existing facilities and needs. The plan for the future is to evaluate and review the impact of the teaching programs carried out by the Committee.

The ICPO itself is not a basis for research activities or procedures. The communication between research centers and information on important findings are, however, considered appropriate tasks for the Committee, and are promoted by the International Research Information Service.

In this phase of transition the scope and authority must obviously be items reviewed by the membership, and among the most important objectives of the new society will be establishment of criteria for evaluation of training facilities for professionals within prosthetics/orthotics rehabilitation.

The organization and membership of the ICPO are as follows:

SECRETARIAT: 3, Hans Knudsens Plads, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark.

OFFICERS OF THE ICPO:

Chairman: Knud JANSEN

Honorary secretary and editor of PROSTHETICS INTERNATIONAL: Jørgen KJØLBYE

Subeditor: Wilfred KRAGSTRUP

Research coordinator: Erik LYQUIST

SECRETARIAL STAFF:

Birgit CEDERHOLM

Aase LARSSON

ICPO MEMBERSHIP

André BAHLER
Chief prosthetist/orthotist
Chairman of INTERBOR
Kreuzstrasse 46,
Zurich 8008
SWITZERLAND

Masatora HIYEDA, M.D.
National Railway Association
Dept. of Welfare Services for the
Disabled
1, Konjimachi, 5-Chrome,
Chioda-ku
Tokyo
JAPAN

Robert KLEIN, M.D.
Medical Director,
Central Development Unit,
Repatriation Department
Central Office
312 Saint Kilda Road
South Melbourne
AUSTRALIA

Jean Eric LESCOEUR, M.D.
Medical Director
Centre de Rééducation
Fonctionnelle de Saint Cloud
26 Rue Dailly
Saint Cloud (Seine et Oise)
FRANCE

Micah MAJALE, M.D.
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon
Kenyatta National Hospital
Box 30 597
Nairobi
KENYA

D. S. McKENZIE, M.D.
Director, Biomechanical Research
and Development Unit
Department of Health and Social
Security
Roehampton
London S.W. 15
ENGLAND

Colin A. McLaurin, D.Sc.
Project Director
Prosthetic Research and
Training Unit
Ontario Crippled Children's
Centre
350 Rumsey Road
Toronto 17, Ontario
CANADA

A. W. McQUIRK, F.I.B.S.T.
Chief Prosthetist
J. E. Hanger & Co., Ltd.
Queen Mary's Roehampton
Hospital, Roehampton
London S.W. 15
ENGLAND

George MURDOCH, F.R.C.S.
Surgeon in Charge
Dundee Limb Fitting Centre
133 Queen Street
Broughty Ferry
Dundee
SCOTLAND

Eugene F. MURPHY, Ph. D.
Chief, Research and Development
Division
PSAS, Veterans Administration
252 Seventh Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10001
USA

Louis PIERQUIN, Professor M.D.
Caisse Regionale
D'Assurance Maladie
35, Rue Lionnois
Nancy
FRANCE

Fernando SERRANO, M.D.
Hospital Militar Central
Transversal 5 A, No. 49 - 00
Bogota
COLOMBIA

Marian WEISS, Professor, M.D.
Medical Director
Rehabilitation Centre
12 Wierzejewskiego Street
Konstancin n/ Warsaw
POLAND

CHAIRMEN OF REGIONAL
SUBCOMMITTEES

J. A. E. GLEAVE, F.I.B.S.T.
The Guest House
Vicarage Road
Lingfield/Surrey
ENGLAND

Anthony STAROS
Director, Veterans Administration
Prosthetics Center
252 Seventh Avenue, New York,
N.Y. 10001 USA

ICTA MATERIAL AVAILABLE ON AIDS FOR THE DISABLED

For those who are not familiar with the various aids available for the disabled, the International Committee on Technical Aids, Housing and Transportation of the International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled publishes periodic circulars containing the description and illustration of a particular aid. Also included is the address of the commercial manufacturer. The information is published in French, German, and Spanish, as well as in English.

Some examples of the aids illustrated are a multipurpose stair walker which is an aid for walking up and down stairs as well as on level ground; a hemi-ambulator, an aid specially designed for persons having the use of only one hand; a folding wheelchair ramp, a portable ramp which enables wheelchair users to negotiate as many as four steps, etc.

Of particular interest is a booklet published by ICTA dated April 1969 on a "List of Technical Aids for Physically Handicapped Children."

For complete information on how to receive these publications and of the various publications available, write to:

ICTA Information Centre
Fack, S-161 03 Bromma 3
Sweden

HARRY T. CAVANAUGH, C.O.

Harry T. Cavanaugh of the VA Prosthetics Center passed away on February 1, 1970, in the VA Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y., at the age of 50. Born in Brooklyn, New York, on October 19, 1919, he started his career in orthotics and prosthetics as a limb fitter with Amsterdam Bros., in New York City. He joined the U.S. Navy in November 1942 and was honorably discharged in December 1945.

Mr. Cavanaugh was employed by the Veterans Administration in 1946. Since that time, he served in many responsible positions. He was certified as an Orthotist in 1951. At the time of his death he was Chief, Prefabricated Appliances Section, VA Prosthetics Center. The success of VAPC's centralized distribution programs can be attributed primarily to Mr. Cavanaugh's diligence and dedication.

Mr. Cavanaugh was also called upon to lecture and teach on subjects related to prosthetics. In all that he did, Harry Cavanaugh projected a very winsome and jovial personality.

He leaves a wife, Jean; three sons, William (age 24), Kyle (age 11), and Kerry (age 9); and two daughters, Brynn (age 20) and Darcy (age 8).



FIGURE 2.—Harry T. Cavanaugh.



FIGURE 3.—Lucius Trautman.

IN MEMORIAM

It was with sincere regret that the staff at the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service of the Veterans Administration learned of the passing of Lucius Trautman, President of the Minneapolis Artificial Limb Company. Over the years, the PSAS staff has recognized the major contributions of people in the orthopedic and prosthetic appliances industry; Lu Trautman was one of the great leaders of the industry program, not only in making contributions to the industry but also to the Military and Veterans Administration Programs of care for the disabled.

The Editorial Board of the Bulletin of Prosthetics Research recently consulted with Howard Thranhardt, one of Lu's best friends in the private practice of prosthetics. Mr. Thranhardt noted the following:

"Lu started working for his father, in the prosthetic field, while still in high school.

"He dedicated his life and work for the betterment of the amputee. Lu was president of both the Orthopedic Appliance and Limb Manufacturing Association and the American Board for Certification in the early and middle 1950's. Lu served on the Committee on Prosthetics Research and Development of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council for many years.

“During World War II, primarily because of Lu’s vast experience with fiber limbs, he was a consultant to the six major Army Amputation Centers. He taught and assisted Army personnel with the fitting of our war amputees. Many amputee veterans still remember Lu’s gentleness and ready words of encouragement while being fitted with their appliances.

“Lu had recently been working on two new prosthetic facilities, one in Minneapolis, the other, in Rochester, Minn.; but as Mrs. Trautman recently said ‘Lu was denied seeing the completion of his latest work but then maybe anticipation is always greater than realization.’

“I know of no epitaph more appropriate than the words Lucius Trautman wrote as retiring president of American Board for Certification:

‘Serving your fellow men is one of the best things that can happen to an individual in this world.’

“Lu is survived by his wife Bunny, their five children, and several grandchildren.”