

A PAST PRESIDENT RETROSPECTS

Over the past 3 years, Dr. Julius Comroe, for 17 years Director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of California, San Francisco, has written a series of 28 essays for the American Review of Respiratory Disease. In response to requests by many readers, he has now revised the articles and collected them in a 192-page soft-cover volume, *Retro-spectroscope — Insights into Medical Discoveries*. The author examines in an informal and entertaining style the whole process of scientific discovery from the inception of an idea to its first communication in print, and the many intermediate steps by many scientists in many disciplines before the idea led to full clinical use; along the way, he looks at chance discoveries, some missed scientific opportunities, the contributions of young scientists, delays between the initial discovery and application, and factors that held back discovery. Some typical chapter titles are: Whodunit and Why; Roast Pig and Scientific Discovery; Tell It Like It Was; The Clouded Crystal Ball; What Makes the Sky Blue; Speculation on Speculation; Publisher's Dawdle; How to Make Hasenpfeffer.

The book is now available, by mail order only, from The Von Gehr Press, P.O. Box 7654, Menlo Park, CA, 94025; the cost is \$5 a copy, including postage and handling.

CLAUDE BERNARD ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

Stanford University School of Medicine announces a three-day conference to be held on the Stanford campus from February 10-12, 1978. It will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Claude Bernard, one of the greatest figures in the history of experimental physiology and medicine.

The purpose of this conference is to memorialize his life by summarizing his life and work, provide links between his work and modern developments in regulatory biology, and disseminate this knowledge.

The conference will consist of presentations by invited speakers who will present their own work, but also review the "state of knowledge" in specific areas. Discussions will also be invited from the audience. Enrollment, limited to 350, is open to all interested scientists and students; there is no registration fee required.

This conference is acceptable for up to 20 hours of Category I credit in the California Medical Association's Certificate in Continuing Medical Education program.

Course applications may be obtained from Dr. Eugene Robin, Room C-352, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California 94305, telephone (415) 497-5956.

OPTICAL MICROSCOPY AND PHOTOMICROGRAPHY IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, announces Optical Microscopy and Photomicrography in the Biomedical Sciences, a residential laboratory course, March 12-18, 1978.

This concentrated program is intended primarily for scientists and physicians who require theoretically based training and experience in modern light microscopy. Among the topics to be discussed and practiced will be bright and dark-field, phase and modulation contrast, high extinction polarized light and differential interference microscopy, fluorescence, and color and black-and-white photomicrography and cinematography. The Instructor-in-Chief will be Robert Day Allen of Dartmouth College. Additional information and application materials may be obtained from the Director of Admissions, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass. 02543. The Marine Biological Laboratory admits any students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

REFRESHER COURSE IN CARDIAC IMAGING

A refresher course in cardiac imaging will be presented by the North American Society for Cardiac Radiology, March 20-24, 1978 at the MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The program will follow the standard format of morning lectures series followed by afternoon workshops. Faculty members of internationally known authorities in cardiology, radiology, ultrasound, nuclear medicine and computerized tomography will direct the program. The course is sponsored by the American College of Radiology and the council on Clinical Cardiology of the American Heart Association and will offer approximately 23 hours of credit for Category I of the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. For further information please contact:

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