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NEWS OF SOVIET ROENTGENOLOGY

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NEWS OF SOVIET ROENTGENOLOGY

Following are translations of two articles, the first written by R. Ya. Gasul' and A. L. Budyko and the second by A. V. Rozenberg, which appeared in Vestnik Rentgenologii i Radiologii (Herald of Roentgenology and Radiology), Vol. XXIV, No. 4, 1959, pages 93-94 and pages 94-95, respectively.

The Activity of the Zaporozhskaya Oblast Scientific Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists in 1957-1958

Soon after the change of Odessa State Institute for the Advanced Training of Physicians imeni Gor'kiy to the Zaporozh'ye Chair of Roentgenology and Radiology, organization was begun of the Zaporozhskaya Oblast Scientific Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists, which would unite the physicians-roentgenologists of the city and rayons and join them in the settlement of questions of the development and improvement of X-ray services for the population, as well as of raising the qualifications of physicians-roentgenologists.

At the first established general city meeting of the physicians-roentgenologists, the acute need for such a scientific society was revealed, since the roentgenologists, whose number at the present time exceeds 60 persons, were working separately; there was no single school, no single method, either in roentgenological research, or in the documentation of roentgenological data. This was of especial concern to the care of oncological patients; here the number of inaccurate interpretations of X-ray pictures was significant.

At the opening of the first conference of the new society, the superintendent of the Oblast Health Department, Ye. N. Krakovski, called upon the members of the society to use all their powers to aid the organs of public health to put an end to the lagging behind of roentgenologists in the struggle against cancer and in the rendering of qualified X-ray service to the population of the city and rayons.

After the officers were elected, the plan of work of the society was approved; it meets regularly once a month, holding joint meetings from time to time on special questions with societies of surgeons, oncologists, neuropathologists, pediatricians, etc.

In 1957, 10 meetings were held, at which 17 reports and seven communications were heard, with demonstrations of patients.

In nine months of 1958, eight meetings were held, at which 11 reports and 10 demonstrations were made.

The subjects of the reports were primarily questions which developed at the Chair of Roentgenology and Pathology of Zaporozh'ye Institute for the Advanced Training of Physicians, as well as other roentgenological institutions of the city, and were always accompanied by a fruitful exchange of experiments and knowledge among the physician-roentgenologists. Important theoretical and practical problems were sometimes resolved in the lively discussions that arose. Thus, for example, questions were considered on the so-called masks of bronchio-pulmonary cancer, about new methods of X-ray research, about the role and methods of roentgenologists in this, about differential diagnostic difficulties in cases of cancer of the stomach, about the sources of errors in current roentgenology, and about the problems of tolerance to radiation among physicians and X-ray researchers (reports of Prof. R. Ya. Gasul'). Other topics were also considered: about X-ray therapy of acute otitis with the aid of diagnostic apparatus (I. B. Babicheva), about ruptures of the diaphragm (A. B. Zabegaylo), about lung cancer Penkosta (D. M. Shamrakov), about progressive ossifying myositis (L. Ye. Gartman), about cancer of the pancreas (I. N. Ostrovskaya), about the X-ray therapy of inflammatory ailments (G. S. Sandomirskiy and L. Ye. Gartman), about benign growths of the stomach (S. M. Dashevskiy), about the differential X-ray diagnosis of silicosis (Ya. S. Kolker), about aplasia of the lungs (I. B. Babicheva), and about complex cholecystography (A. Ya. Koleshikova).

Interest was elicited by the demonstrations of cases of Rustitskaya disease (V. I. Vostrukhin), Fallo's tetrad before and after operation (R. Ya. Gasul'), X-ray pictures of the lungs after pneumonectomy (A. B. Zabegaylo), traumatic ruptures of the diaphragm (A. I. Chayka), disinvagination with the aid of barium enema (R. Ya. Gasul'), cancer of the lungs with intergrowth in the heart (V. N. Alekseyenko), the dynamics of osteodystrophy after a fracture (V. S. Chistyugina), aneurysm of the carotid artery (I. N. Ostrovskaya), and rare forms of skeletal ailments

(R. Ya. Gasul').

There were also reports on the tasks of roentgenology and radiology in the light of the resolution of the Tenth Convention of the CPSU, on the development of roentgenology in the USSR after 40 years and on the role of Ukrainian roentgenologists in the development of Soviet roentgenology, on the state of the X-ray system in Zaporozhskaya Oblast (A. F. Nakhodkin) and a dedication to the memory of Irene and Frederic Joliot-Curie.

The members of the society actively participate in the scientific-practical guest conferences of the Chair of Roentgenology and Radiology of the Institute for the Advanced Training of Physicians.

The Rostov-on-Don Scientific Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists

The Rostov Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists has been in existence for more than 30 years. Since 1944 its permanent leader and chairman has been Prof. A. I. Dombrovskiy. Although at the beginning of 1952 the members of the society numbered 58, at the beginning of 1958 there were 88 of them. Such growth of the society has ensured the development of the X-ray system of the city and oblast, with ever-growing interest in roentgenology and radiology on the part of the wide mass of physicians and with active work on the instruction of new cadres of specialists. All the activity of the Rostov Society can be conditionally divided into scientific-practical, pedagogical, and organizational sections. We shall stop at the activity of the society for the last four years.

Scientific-Practical Section

In the period specified, 155 meetings were held, at which were heard and considered 349 reports, communications, and demonstrations, including 87 on problems of bone pathology, 85 on ailments of the organs of the thorax, 43 on ailments of the digestive tract, 19 on radiation sickness and radiation therapy, 18 on medical radiology, 12 on urology, nine on ailments of the cardiovascular system, seven on technique and dosimetry, 27 on other topics, and 42 on organizational questions. The meetings were held according to a set plan almost every week.

The topic of each session was usually worked up beforehand and brought up to the meeting of the members of the society and other interested persons. In practice it was shown that an extensive preliminary announcement to the members of the society of the topic planned for the next meeting was well worthwhile, since a broader circle of persons was drawn into the consideration of the report; this, as a rule, was accompanied by an exchange of experiments and counter demonstrations of analogous cases. As a result the scientific sessions of the society became more comprehensive. The following reports and communications were heard and considered: "Acute and Chronic Radiation Sickness" (Dombrovskiy), "On the Problem of Caseation" (Tkachenko), "Actinomycosis of the Lungs among Children" (Dvorina), "Immediate and Further Results of the Treatment of Thyrotoxicosis with Radioactive Iodine" (Trukhova), "Sarcoma of the Stomach" (Nekovaleva), "On the Problem of Ileus of the Stomach" (Tsipel'zon), "On Subluxations of the Ulnar Joint

in Typical Fractures of the Radius" (Zavesa), "Bone Brucellosis in Clinic and Experiment" (Rozenberg), "On Circular Formations in the Lungs" (Beniaminovich), "On the Problem of Aneurysm of the Heart" (Shaposhnikov), "On the Problem of Sarcoidosis of the Bones" (Mikhaylovskaya), "On the Problem of Osteoid Osteomas" (Kondratenko), "A Picture of the Blood in Radiation Sickness" (Alenina) and a number of others.

In addition to the weekly scientific-practical sessions of the society, grand meetings were held, dedicated to the memory of I. V. Michurin, I. M. Sechenov, and Roentgen. At the grand meeting on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the discovery of Roentgen rays, the following reports were heard: "Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen and His Greatest Discovery" (Dombrovskiy), "Outline of the Development of X-ray Therapy" (Krichevskiy), "The Role of Roentgenology in the Development of Phthisiatry" (Edel'man), "The Development of X-ray Service in Rostovskaya Oblast" (Mekhonoshin), "The Development of X-ray Dosimetry" (Miyeserov).

Every year oblast and inter-oblast roentgenological-radiological conferences were held; representatives of the All-Union Society of Roentgenologists and the Central Roentgenological-Radiological Institute, as well as representatives of the neighboring krais and oblasts (Krasnodarskiy Kray, Stabropol'skaya, Krymskaya, and other oblasts), took part in the works of these conferences. At the oblast conferences reports on the most urgent problems of present-day roentgenology and radiology were presented, such as: contrasting methods of investigation of various organs and systems, tomography, tomofluorography, segmentary and directed bronchography, near-focusing and rotating X-ray therapy, the use of radioactive isotopes for medical and diagnostic purposes, etc. The society also practised the demonstration of scientific popular films depicting the achievements of medical radiology.

Among the other aspects of the practical activity of the society, we should indicate the extensive consultative work which takes place among the physicians of the city and oblast. Most of the qualified members of the society carry on, as a form of cooperative assistance, constant systematic consultation in the many polyclinics and hospitals of the city and some rayons of the oblast, striving as far as possible to meet the demands of the organs of public health in this regard.

Pedagogical Section

The society constantly pays a great deal of attention to the problem of training new cadres of X-ray specialists. The pedagogical activity of the society began in 1937, but it attained its greatest scope in the postwar period. Every year the Scientific Society, together with the Chair of Roentgenology and Radiology of Rostov Medical Institute and the Oblast Health Department, have organized five-month courses of specialization of various types for city and oblast doctors.

As a rule, the courses of specialization were delivered to more than 20 listeners, who successfully fulfilled the established program and obtained new qualification as physicians-roentgenologists. During the postwar period 273 physicians were trained in the courses of specialization.

The instructors in the courses of specialization were the best qualified members of the society and scientific workers of the Chair of Roentgenology. Along with a lecture course on various divisions of roentgenology, delivered by the instructors in conformity with the programs of the Ministry of Health USSR, the greatest number of hours was allotted to practical work by the students in the X-ray departments and offices of the hospitals and polyclinics of the city. In addition to the courses of specialization, courses of higher qualification were conducted for the physicians-roentgenologists of the oblast; the students at these became acquainted with the advances of present-day roentgenology. The society paid a great deal of attention as well to the propagation of specialized knowledge among the physicians of the city hospitals, polyclinics, and sanitary-epidemiologic stations. To this end seminars and "dekadniks" [seminars held at ten-day intervals] were frequently conducted on individual topics of medical radiology and roentgenology. With the aid of the members of the society and the workers of the Oblast X-ray Station, courses of specialization were given almost every year for X-ray technicians. As a result, the X-ray service of the city and oblast never experienced a lack of well-instructed semitechnical workers.

Organizational Section

This section of the activity of the Scientific Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists primarily included the complex of problems having as their purpose the improvement of working conditions for the workers of the roentgenological-radiological departments and offices. The

society endeavored to find the most acceptable forms of correlation with the administration of the medical-prophylactic institutions, in the area of maintenance of a standard load, order of accepting patients, the establishment of actual professional injury, and measures for the protection of personnel from undesirable action of X-rays and gamma-rays. In connection with this, at the initiation and with the very close participation of the presidium of the society, investigations of the state of health of the personnel and careful dosimetry of the various penetrating radiations at the place of work were often conducted. When there were violations of the established protective measures, active steps were undertaken for their removal. Often members of the presidium of the society, personally or through the chief roentgenologist of the city or the head of the Oblast X-ray Station, brought to the Oblast or City Department of Health various measures designed for the removal of organizational troubles which were hindering normal work.

As a rule, at the sessions of the Scientific Society various organizational problems were presented, on which various decisions were taken, guaranteeing optimal conditions of work for the society or its individual members. Often various innovations and inventions were heard and considered at the sessions of the society. In suitable cases decisions were made or recommendations were carried out, having in view the actualization of proposals worthy of attention.

Summing up the activities of the roentgenologists of Rostov, we must not fail to note the high activity of the whole association.

The Rostov-on-Don Society of Roentgenologists and Radiologists should strive for even higher demonstrations of the fulfillment of the tasks posed by our Soviet reality.

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