

ber over 800, as I mentioned before. There is also no question of the growing public awareness of the need for early diabetes detection. The impressive newspaper and radio space and time donated to our Diabetes Week activities is a further confirmation of civic appreciation for our efforts.

It is the opinion of the Committee that this program of detection and education has proved its worth and should be continued and expanded. Careful examination should be made of all its phases with a view to improving them and increasing the number of individuals screened. The problem of follow-up studies should be emphasized; where they have been inaugurated they have been most revealing and of great value from a medical point of view.

Any shortcomings of this detection and education program seem to be those of execution, rather than of principle or planning. The organization of so large a public as ours by voluntary means is not easy, and although our community facilities for testing have grown over the years, there is still vast room for expanding this accommodation. The acceptance of our publicity, both professional and public, has been gratifying.

Records and displays at the National Office are witness to that.

Increased efficiency in the work of the Committees on Diabetes, conscientious record-keeping and prompt reporting, as well as intelligent follow-up studies of individuals tested will improve the effectiveness of our work. These have improved over the years, and I have no doubt but that they will continue to improve until our highest expectations have been reached.

One phase of this work, which is an inevitable concurrent, is education, both to the laity and the profession, which conforms to a basic concept of this Association. A distinct effort should, and is, being made to broaden this very important aspect of the program.

Each year we are able to detect and advise many unknown diabetics so that they are able to take measures which will prevent their developing disabling future complications. As we see this figure growing, we can feel assured that the American Diabetes Association and its cooperating groups are performing a real service to the American people.

JOHN A. REED, M.D., *Chairman,*
Committee on Detection and Education

The First Postgraduate Course in Diabetes Successfully Completed

The first Postgraduate Course in diabetes and basic metabolic problems conducted by the American Diabetes Association, under the direction of Charles H. Best, M.D., Director of the Banting and Best Department of Medical Research of the University of Toronto, was held successfully at the University of Toronto on January 19, 20, and 21, 1953.

The organization and the presentation of the Postgraduate Course, under the chairmanship of Edward L. Bortz, M.D., and the Committee on Postgraduate Education, was commented on universally, with special appreciation of the work of the Course's Clinical Director, Ray F. Farquharson, M.B., Professor of Medicine of the University of Toronto, and Associate Clinical Director Andrew L. Chute, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto, who placed the facilities and the conveniences of the Hospital for Sick Children at the disposal of all who attended the Course. The

new hospital's excellently designed and comfortable lecture theatre provided an ideal setting for the talks and discussions and the facilities of its staff cafeteria were available throughout the day for luncheon and other refreshments.

REGISTRANTS REPORT

As to the Course itself, which is now history, the best report on it can be found among the three-page questionnaires which were distributed to the registrants for their comment on the value of each lecture and discussion as well as their estimate of the manner of its presentation. Although signature to this questionnaire was optional, reports of those attending were uniformly favorable. Here are some quotations from the registrants' remarks:

"I have attended numerous postgraduate courses and

ORGANIZATION SECTION

I feel that this course was as beneficial, as well organized, and that the caliber of teachers was as high as any I have attended."

"The entire course was well worth while. The program was excellent, showed thoughtful planning, and was presented on a well-timed schedule. . . . Presentations were usually concise, bearing well on salient points, well organized."

"I feel that the course is excellent and very worth while to practicing physicians. Especially noteworthy were the round-table discussions and the courtesy and friendliness of the speakers between and after classes."

"Very well planned. Very well carried out. Very thoughtful of our personal individual comfort. A fine meeting."

"An excellent course, full of meat. Impossible to digest all of it. Will be necessary to attend future courses to profit to the full from this one. Many excellent features of great value to the General Practitioner as well as the Internist Specialist. It would have been perfect if we had been supplied with copies of those papers, the contents of which could have been put to practical use."

Many of the papers given at the Course will be published in future issues of *DIABETES*.

Physicians from 24 of the United States and the District of Columbia, and Canadian physicians from three provinces, comprised the 176 registrants. Due to lack of facilities, 78 applicants for the Course had to be declined and many inquirers had to be advised that

the Course was oversubscribed. All Association members who applied were accepted.

We are pleased to report that we received many applications for membership in the American Diabetes Association as a result of the Course, as well as a substantial number of new subscriptions to *DIABETES*.

SOCIAL EVENTS

In addition to the three daily sessions of lectures and round-table discussions which were enthusiastically and attentively attended, the social facilities of Toronto were placed at the disposal of the registrants. Excellent symphony concerts, ballets, and theatrical attractions, as well as hockey, football and other sports were listed daily.

The dinner on Monday evening, January 19, was attended by 225 persons. The speakers' table was graced by Lady Banting; Mrs. Frederick W. W. Hipwell, whose late husband was a Councilor of the Association and a cousin of Sir Frederick Banting; Doctors Almon Fletcher and W. R. Campbell, who were the first to use insulin clinically; Emeritus Professor Duncan Graham of the University of Toronto and Mrs. Graham; Dean J. A. MacFarlane of the Medical School of the University of Toronto and Mrs. MacFarlane; Professor and Mrs. Charles H. Best; Dr. Frank N. Allan, who was toastmaster, and Mrs. Allan; Dr. R. F. Farquharson, and Mrs. Farquharson; Dr. A. L. Chute, and Mrs. Chute; Dr. Edward L. Bortz.

The high point of this distinguished social event was the showing by Dr. Charles H. Best of slides taken during several of his recent world-wide trips—a travelogue of fascinating scientific and historical interest.