

myocardial infarction, it could be much easier done by the use of the new drugs, such as atomid, which has been produced lately by I.C.I. and which has now been tested on about two thousand people and which certainly lowers the plasma cholesterol and seems to do it without the side-effects of other drugs.

Dr Scott: There is one other way of lowering the cholesterol level of the blood that is not always recognized. If you have a good meal, up goes the cholesterol content; if an hour after the meal you get up and go for a walk, within a quarter of an hour the level has fallen considerably.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Chairman: Before we disperse, I will ask the provost of our faculty, Dr Ollerenshaw, to come forward to propose a vote of thanks.

Dr J. G. Ollerenshaw: The true vote of thanks this afternoon is to the number of people who have turned up to hear our speakers and listened with such attention. From the personal point of view, as one clinging rather desperately to middle age and looking at the panel of depressingly slim speakers, I must admit to a certain amount of depression which has been mounting in the course of the afternoon. Dr Scott and Professor Dunlop have been gradually impressing on me that I have got to give up the things of which I am rather fond—giving up cigarettes would be a great effort, but my wife is rather a good cook and to have to divorce her as well would be too much. However, when on top of that Dr McKinnon tells me that my sins are finding me out, I am content to give up and live to the same age as Sir Winston Churchill! Dr Kuenssberg has, I think, given a most valuable contribution this afternoon in bringing to our notice the great need there is for more time to be spent on, and more research to be done on, the problem of the menopause. We all have these ladies coming to our surgeries, and I am afraid that very often we use the same routine for all of them. Dr Kuenssberg has shown how complicated the matter is and how much more attention we should pay to it. There is very much of Dr Roth's contribution that I would like to talk about. One thing is his attitude to death, which I found of considerable interest. I would like to repeat a story I heard some time ago about a Lapland tribe who, of course, have to

move as winter comes to another site where food is more accessible. Someone was visiting this tribe at the time when they were due to move, and they left an old lady behind who started to catch birds and put them in a cage. When this visitor said to her, "Of course, you will die," she said, "Yes, my time has come." She quite agreed with the decision of the tribe. He said, "I will take you south, and then you can come back in the summer." "No," she said, "if the tribe comes back and there are no birds in the cages my life will be wasted. If they come back and find birds in the cages I have fulfilled my life." I rather like that story, and it has helped my feelings quite a lot on this question of death. Another thing Professor Roth said which I have also found in practice is that if you show a depressed patient that you do understand him—even with just a simple question like "Has life gone grey, has it lost its colour?" it is amazing how often he will perk up a little and seem to understand that you are interested.

Thank you very much for your most interesting lectures this afternoon. In addition, may I once more express our thanks to Dr McKinnon, who has really worked hard; these things have to be organized, and I think that the members here and the excellence of the afternoon is a tribute to the work that he has put in. Finally we must thank the Geigy Pharmaceutical Company Limited which has made this possible for us. It has done it elsewhere, and I am sure it is doing good work for general practice in making possible these gatherings. Thank you all.
