

that hypothyroidism reduces the protective effect of oestrogens on the coronary arteries of cholesterol-fed chicks.

The final session of the symposium was concerned with the mechanism of thrombosis. Ultrastructural features of platelet aggregation were clearly illustrated by J. E. French (Oxford). G. V. R. Born (London) expressed the view that adenosine diphosphate (ADP) released from the vessel-wall may initiate platelet aggregation; a chain-reaction is set up by the production of ADP from the adenosinetriphosphate within such aggregated platelets. Born reported that adenosine and its 2-chloro derivative are strong *in vitro* inhibitors of ADP-induced platelet aggregation. Moreover, these inhibitors suppress thrombogenesis in the experimental animal. Both Born and J. F. Mustard (Toronto) mentioned the possible thrombogenic effect of collagen exposure in the injured vessel. In this connexion, P. Constantinides (Vancouver) presented histological evidence that fissures in atherosclerotic plaques frequently underlie arterial thrombi.

Mustard considered that the platelet aggregates formed during the initial stage of thrombosis are later stabilized by the deposition of fibrin fibrils. C. Hawkey (London) produced experimental evidence to support this concept; she showed that experimental thrombi progressively disintegrate if the plasma fibrinolysin system is activated with streptokinase. This observation indicates that fibrin "cements" the platelet aggregates in the thrombus and explains the efficacy of anticoagulant therapy in some forms of human thrombosis. C. W. M. ADAMS

## MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION 1966

THE seventy-second annual conference of the Museums Association was held in Sheffield during July 4-9 under the presidency of Sir Frank Francis, director of the British Museum, London. In his presidential address, Sir Frank deplored the distinction now being made between "living" and "dead" art, and said it was ludicrous that while the Government White Paper recognized that museums might play the part of local art centres, they were not included in the grant proposals. He emphasized the value of the relatively recently formed Area Museum Councils and made a plea for scholarly research by museum staffs. Museums throughout Britain were becoming more and more attractive to the communities they served and were endeavouring to kill the traditional image that they had unfortunately acquired.

The relationship of the national and provincial museums formed the general theme of the conference, and this was discussed in the fields of archaeology, art and natural history. Speakers included Mr. R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford (British Museum), Dr. G. B. Corbet (British Museum (Natural History)) and Mr. M. Levey (National Gallery) for the national institutions, and Mr. D. T.-D. Clarke (Colchester and Essex Museum), Mr. I. M. Evans (Leicester Museum and Art Gallery) and Mr. H. Scrutton (Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool) for the provincial institutions. At many times during the papers and in subsequent discussions the present friendly co-operation between national and provincial staffs was emphasized, but it was strongly felt that this help should be co-ordinated. The exchange of staffs was advocated, though it was emphasized that this would entail standardizing the status and salaries of national and provincial personnel. It was also considered that the problem varied in the different disciplines dealt with by museums and art galleries and was a simpler matter in archaeology and natural history than in art. In the former subjects the acquisition and display of local and regional objects were desirable in all

but the larger institutions, but in art the solution of the problem was more complicated.

The concentration of natural history and geological type specimens in national institutions was considered to be a matter for further discussion, for although the larger provincial museums could deal with various groups in an adequate manner it was certainly not desirable for the smaller institutions to hold type material.

At the annual general meeting, Mr. G. L. Conran, director of the City Art Galleries, Manchester, was elected president for 1967. The next conference will be held in Glasgow during June 26-30, 1967. F. S. WALLIS

## OBITUARIES

### Prof. K. J. Franklin

PROF. K. J. FRANKLIN, emeritus professor of physiology in the University of London, died on May 8 at the age of 68. "K. J.", as he was known to a wide circle of friends and colleagues, held the chair of physiology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College from 1947 until 1958. He came from Oxford with a reputation as an authority on the renal circulation and with a wide background of circulatory physiology.

Franklin was born in London in November 1897. He was educated at the Bluecoat School, and in 1915 won a scholarship in classics to Hertford College, Oxford. Instead of going to Oxford, however, he joined the Royal Artillery and served with a field battery in France until the Armistice. He went up to Oxford in 1919, and decided to study medicine rather than classics. He went to St. Bartholomew's Hospital as a clinical student in 1922, qualified in 1924 and returned to Oxford as a fellow of Oriel College. From 1924 until 1938 he was demonstrator of pharmacology at Oxford and combined that duty with that of tutor in physiology and librarian at Oriel College. When the Nuffield Institute for Medical Research was established in 1935, Franklin became assistant director and continued in this post until he was appointed professor of physiology at Bart's in 1947.

His ability to do several tasks at once had been proved at an early age when he had combined clinical studies with the post of part-time demonstrator in physiology under Prof. (now Sir Charles) Lovatt Evans at Bart's and, in his final year, that of part-time lecturer in physiology at Brasenose College, Oxford. As a good classical scholar, Franklin turned to a study of medical history. He also combined the techniques of cinematography and radiography in a study of the renal circulation. Between 1947 and 1958, Franklin was occupied with his work on the renal circulation, his classical interests in making new translations of some of the works of William Harvey, and in supervising the construction of the new buildings which house the Departments of Physiology and Pharmacology. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1955.

His last series of experiments was aimed at determining whether the phenomenon of cortical necrosis of the kidney, which is a serious complication in concealed accidental haemorrhage, could be explained on the basis of a uterorenal reflex. Ill-health unfortunately forced him to retire before any firm conclusions could be drawn.

Those of us who worked with him will always remember him as a tall and impressive figure with a shy manner and very softly spoken. Further acquaintance soon revealed that he had a fine sense of humour and a most kindly personality.

Prof. Franklin is survived by his wife and one daughter. F. J. AUMONIER