

Notes and activities

New Officers of the New British Society of Gastroenterology

The following new officers have been elected for 1971.

PRESIDENT: Professor A. A. Harper

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Professor W. I. Card

HONORARY TREASURER: Professor C. G. Clark

HONORARY SECRETARIES:

Dr R. Holmes

Mr Ian McColl

CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE: Professor B. N. Brooke

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

Sir Francis Avery Jones

Dr J. E. Lennard-Jones

Mr H. B. Torrance

The Oesophagus: A Course under the Auspices of the American Gastroenterological Association

Members of the American Gastroenterological Association will give a course on the oesophagus on 9, 10 and 11 May 1971 at the Americana Hotel, Miami Beach, USA. The course on the oesophagus will precede the annual meeting of the American Gastroenterological Association.

All physicians are welcome. The registration fee is \$100.00 (\$25.00 for students and others in training). Please address all enquiries to Mrs Frances T. Chalmers, A.G.A. Postgraduate Course, Box 190, McLean, Va. 22101.

Symposium on Intestinal Absorption and its Derangements

A symposium of interest to gastroenterologists has been arranged by the Royal College of Pathologists for Thursday and Friday, 18 and 19 February 1971, at the Royal College of Physicians, London. The subject is intestinal absorption and its derangements. The symposium is open to workers in all disciplines connected with the subject. The registration fee is £8 (sterling), which includes coffee, lunch, and tea on the two days, and a copy of the papers which are to be published as a special supplement (edited by A. M. Dawson) to the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. Further information and application forms can be obtained from The Royal College of Pathologists, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1.

Notes on books

In Commemoration of Sir Arthur Hurst

To commemorate the founder of their Society in 1937, the British Society of Gastroenterology has published 'The selected writings of Sir Arthur Hurst', who was born in 1879 and died in 1944. Sir Arthur's original work in 1907, using bismuth and the then new 'x rays', was a starting point in modern gastroenterology, and his many papers include a classical account of achalasia, and others on such subjects as carbohydrate intestinal dyspepsia, constipation and disorders of the colon, as well as on more general topics, particularly his 'War neuroses'.

Sir Arthur was a stimulating physician, fertile with ideas, and the British Society has wished to ensure that his name and work are not forgotten. The selected works are edited—with a biographical introduction—by one of the Society's past presidents, Dr Thomas Hunt, and can be obtained from the Publishing Manager, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, price £2 (30s to members of the Society).

Hepatic Failure

Henry Brown, who is Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Harvard Medical School, has just published a short monograph on 'Hepatic failure' (published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Ill. in their American Lecture Series, price \$10.50). The metabolism of the liver and its functions are discussed and also some of the surgical aspects of ascites and hepatic transplantation.

Diseases of the Rectum and Anus

This is a paper-bound volume written in German by two Swiss gastroenterologists, Hans Stirnemann and Fred Halter. It is a fairly small book of 253 pages. On the whole the picture of treatment is somewhat outmoded for the British proctologist, and this impression is reinforced in the rather unbalanced presentation of available methods in the surgical treatment of rectal cancer. However, for a postgraduate student this book provides a reasonable introduction to proctology, and the excellent references should stimulate further

study. (Hans Huber, Berne, Switzerland: Fr 48, D.M. 43.)

Correction

Dr R. Kerremans (A study *in vivo* of adrenergic receptors in the rectum and in the internal anal sphincter of the cat', *Gut*, 11, 709-714) writes: *Fig. 1*. The large numerals 1 and 3 were not placed on the photograph, and in the legend and in the text (a), (b), (c), (d) refer to these and to the large numerals 3 and 4. *Fig. 2*. In the legend and in the text the letters (a), (b), (c) refer to A1, A2, A3 on the figure. The letters (d), (e), (f) refer to B1, B2, B3 on the figure.