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There will be a section devoted to short papers on laboratory and surgical techniques and methods of investigation where these are not part of a larger survey.

COMMUNICATIONS Papers should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, *Gut*, Central Middlesex Hospital, Park Royal, London, N.W.10. Papers are accepted only on the understanding that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Board. They should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. On the paper the name of the author should appear with initials (or distinguishing Christian name) only, and the name and address of the hospital or laboratory where the work was performed. A definition of the position held by each of the authors in the hospital or laboratory should be stated in a covering letter to the Editor. Communications should be kept short, and illustrations should be included when necessary; coloured illustrations are allowed only if monochrome will not satisfactorily demonstrate the condition. It is not desirable that results should be shown both as tables and graphs.

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ABBREVIATIONS In general, symbols and abbreviations should be those used by British Chemical and Physiological Abstracts. In any paper concerning electrolyte metabolism, it is desirable that data be calculated as mEq./l. as well as (or alternatively to) mg./100 ml.

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authors who have written previously on this subject and some of whom have gone to endless trouble to answer my many letters enquiring after their patients.

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The March 1963 Issue

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The reliability and reproducibility of the Schilling test in primary malabsorptive disease and after partial gastrectomy J. F. ADAMS and E. JUNE CARTWRIGHT

The influence of diet on the quality of faecal fat in patients with and without steatorrhoea JOAN P. W. WEBB, A. T. JAMES, and T. D. KELLOCK

Studies in dogs on the biphasic nature of the gastric secretory response to hypoglycaemia and other stimuli with special reference to the role of the adrenals W. SIRCUS, C. J. W. HUSTON, R. M. PRESHAW, H. BASSÖE, and R. A. HARKNESS

1 *The pattern of the biphasic response and the relation to gastric innervation and to hypoglycaemia*

2 *The relationship of the gastric secretory response to hypoglycaemia and to changes in the level of plasma cortisol*

3 *The effect of bilateral adrenalectomy*

4 *The interrelationship of the phases of the response and the role of the antrum*

The pancreas and gastric secretion: failure of pancreatectomy to prevent inhibition of gastric secretion by secretin JOSEPH A. KENNEDY and GEORGE A. HALLENBECK

A 5-hydroxytryptophan-secreting carcinoid tumour A. C. P. CAMPBELL, A. H. GOWENLOCK, D. S. PLATT, and P. J. D. SNOW

Histochemistry of the gastric mucosa J. PINTO CORREIA, M. ISABEL FILIPE, and J. COSTA SANTOS

1 *In normal mucosa*

2 *In pathological conditions and in changes induced by histamine*

Studies on the effect of vagotomy on small intestinal motility using the radio-telemetering capsule B. ROSS, B. W. WATSON, and A. W. KAY

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