Notes and activities

The British Society of Gastroenterology

The Autumn meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology was held in the delightful Scottish setting of Aviemore on 30 September, 1 and 2 October, under the presidency of Professor J. C. Goligher. On the first day there was a teach-in on gallstones, with simultaneous sessions being held by the pathologists' group and the radiologists' group. This was followed by the BSG teaching session, which included a symposium on the management of patients with obscure gastrointestinal haemorrhage. The main sessions were on coeliac syndromes, biliary disease, polypeptide hormones and small intestine, with the general plenary session. The Arthur Hurst Memorial Lecture was given by Professor J. C. Goligher on 'Current trends in the treatment of rectal cancer'. At the BSG business meeting three honorary members were elected—Sir Francis Avery Jones, Professor Viktor Mutt, and Professor Alan Hofmann—and 83 ordinary members.

The following elections were also made: next President Elect: Dr W. Sircus (Edinburgh), who takes office in September 1977; Joint Secretary: Professor M. Hobsley (London), jointly with Dr D. Barnado; next Sir Arthur Hurst Lecturer: Dr J. Fordtran (USA); First BSG Research Award Winners: Dr B. S. Drasar (PHLS, Colindale, seconded to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and Dr S. Bloom (Royal Postgraduate Medical School). New Corresponding Members: Professor Jergen Rask-Madsen (Denmark); Dr Themistokles G. Kanaghinis (Greece), Professor W. M. M. Classen (W. Germany), Professor J. C. Rambaud (France), Dr R. C. Mitra (India), and Professor J. F. Rehfeld (Holland).

The Annual Banquet was held in the best Scottish tradition of hospitality, under the felicitous presidency of Professor J. C. Goligher, who introduced the new President, Dr G. Watkinson.

Hospital Posts in Paris and Lyon, 1977-1978

A number of hospital posts in Paris and Lyon are offered each year to foreign doctors by the Collège de Médecine des Hôpitaux de Paris and the Direction Générale des Hospices Civils de Lyon under the following conditions. Appli-

cants must be under 35 years of age, speak fluent French, and have had at least two years' hospital experience after registration. They must also provide evidence of acceptance by a French teaching hospital department in one of these two towns. Details may be obtained from le Conseiller Scientifique, 41 Parkside, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

Asian-Pacific Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology

At the 2nd Asian Congress of Paediatrics held in Jakarta earlier this month an Asian-Pacific Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology was established. The Society hopes to 'promote cooperation between workers interested in the field of paediatric gastroenterology in all countries of the Asian-Pacific region for the benefit of children'. Dr Michael Gracey has been elected President and the Secretary is Dr Sunoto. The address of the Secretariat is Dr Sunoto, c/o Department of Child Health, University of Indonesia, Salemba 6, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Bologna Symposium

The Second International Symposium on Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology and Diseases will be held in Bologna, Italy, on 11 and 12 March 1977, under the sponsorship of the Italian Society of Gastroenterology. The programme includes symposia on gastric surface epithelium in man, gastroduodenal secretions and motility, and management of gastric hypersecretion and related diseases. Details from Professor L. Barbara, Cattedra e Servizio di Gastroenterologia dell'Università di Bologna, Policlinico S. Orsola, 40138 Bologna, Italy.

Postgraduate Course on Liver and Its Diseases

This course will be held at Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran, from 30 April to 2 May 1977. A course on pathology of the liver by Dr G. Klatskin will be included. The course will be followed by a multi-specialty biomedical congress from 3 to 5 May 1977. Abstracts for the latter should be submitted by 30 November 1976. Details from Dr T. Fakouhi, Director, 8th Pahlavi Medical Congress, Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran.

Books

Progress in Liver Diseases Vol. V H. Popper and F. Schaffner. (Pp. 733; illustrated. £27.85) Grune and Stratton: New York. 1976.

This is the fifth volume of a series covering recent developments in the field of liver disease. Each volume describes recent advances and gives an excellent panoramic view of developments. The selection of topics is particularly good and reflects the high international standing of the editors as scientists and clinicians. Attention must be drawn particularly to the chapters on scanning, electron microscopy, on stereology of the liver, on drug-induced liver disease, on gallstone dissolution, and on hepatic coma. The authors provide world-wide coverage coming not only from the USA but from Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Italy, Finland, Mexico, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom—truly international representation. This is a beautifully reproduced book with illustrations of a very high standard. This makes it seem costly but it must certainly find a place in every hospital library.

S. SHERLOCK

Modern Topics in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy By K. F. R. Schiller and P. R. Salmon. (Pp. 342; illustrated. £11.50.) William Heinemann Medical Books: London. 1976.

In 19 essay-reviews, this book widely covers its subject. The aim of the editors to meet the needs of clinicians is attained.

The style and quality of the information inevitably varies between sections and, personally, I would have preferred greater editorial intervention in each to the critical postscript for which the editors opted.

Certain contributions are outstanding. These are as follows: a massive treatise on fiberoptic physics, by H. H. Hopkins, almost a monograph in itself; a critical appraisal of the diagnosis of mucosal stomach cancer, by W. Roesch, with a welcome examination of the limitations of application of Japanese work; an authoritative and superbly illustrated account of colonic polyps, by C. Williams and R. H. Riddell; and a pragmatic and informative one on hazards by K. F. R. Schiller and B. J. Prout. Other sections which, while less brilliant, are good and informative are those on patient care, upper ali-