

Notes and activities

CORRECTION We much regret that in the note commenting upon the book '*Exfoliative cytology of the stomach*', on page 76 in the January issue of *Gut*, the name of the author was omitted. It is D. D. Gibbs.

BRITISH SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY A one-day Scientific Meeting of the Society will be held on Friday 25 April 1969 at the Royal College of Physicians, in London. A symposium, arranged by the Scientific Sub-Committee, entitled 'Immunological mechanisms in gastrointestinal disease', will be held during the morning. The tentative programme is:

- 1 Introductory concepts
Cell-mediated immunity: Professor Brent
Humoral aspects: Professor Cohen
- 2 The stomach: Dr Graham Jeffries
- 3 IgA and the gut: Dr Tomasi
- 4 The liver: Dr Deborah Doniach

The afternoon will be devoted to short scientific papers. An informal dinner will be held in the evening. A registration fee of £2 (which will not include the cost of the dinner) will be charged to all members and guests.

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS There has been an increasing interest recently in gastrointestinal gas. The whole number of the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, volume 150, February 1968, is devoted to the physiology, clinical, and radiological aspects in a special symposium on '*Gastrointestinal gas*' with many contributions. This conference was intended to present for consideration an analysis of all the factual data at present available on the subject. It is the first of its kind in the hitherto neglected field of gastroenterology and should succeed in stimulating much interest and encouragement for further work. It is published by The New York Academy of Sciences, New York. The price is not given.

'*Portal hypertension*' by C. E. Sedgwick and J. K. Poulantzas. This book is written by two surgeons for general surgeons. It gives an account of the haemodynamics and abnormal endocrine function and disturbed biochemistry with special reference to their practical application in diagnosis and medical treatment. The physiological background is covered in great detail; it is well documented, and not without considerable interest to the general physician. There is good discussion of operative procedures. Published by J. & A. Churchill, price 112s. 6d.

'*Pancreatic diabetes*' by P. J. Geevarghese is a study of diabetes associated with pancreatic calcification covering 400 patients, together with a full survey of the literature. This is a condition which has important geographical variations in incidence, and the authors have been assisted by those who have studied this condition, particularly in India. It is published by Bombay Popular Prakashan, price Rs. 60.00.

'*Recent advances in clinical pathology*', series 5, covers a wide field of pathology but only a few sections are of special interest to those concerned with gastroenterological medicine. This volume includes an admirable study of mucosal biopsies from the gastrointestinal tract by R. Whitehead (Oxford), a section on auto-immune and hypersensitivity phenomena in alimentary diseases by W. J. Irvine (Edinburgh), and I. Chanarin discusses the diagnosis of folate deficiency. This book is published by J. & A. Churchill, price 100s.

EUROPEAN PANCREATIC CLUB The fourth symposium of the European Pancreatic Club will be held in Goettingen, West Germany, on 26 and 27 September 1969 in the Max-Planck Institute for Experimental Medicine under the chairmanship of Professor W. Creutzfeldt. The leading topics of the Symposium will be (1) 'Energy metabolism and regulation of enzyme synthesis in the pancreas'; (2) 'early diagnosis of pancreatic carcinoma' (pancreatic function, radiology, scintigraphy, cytology); (3) panel discussion on 'Standardization of pancreatic function tests'; (4) free papers.

The number of participants will be limited to those active in the field of pancreatic research.

Applications for participation and for submission of papers should be sent before 30 April 1969 to the secretary of the Symposium, Dr H. Schmidt, Medizinische Universitaetsklinik, 34 Goettingen, Humboldtallee 1 (W. Germany).

FOURTH WORLD CONGRESS OF GASTROENTEROLOGY The fourth World Congress of Gastroenterology will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 12 to 18 July 1970 under the Presidency of Professor Mogens Andreassen. All information can be obtained from the Secretariat, 4th World Congress of Gastroenterology, c/o DIS CONGRESS SERVICE, 36, Skindergade, 1159 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

The scientific programme will be concerned with gastric ulcer; early diagnosis of gastric ulcer; cancer of the oesophagus; relationship between gastric function and histological structure; oesophagitis; mono- and disaccharide malabsorption; pathogenic significance of intestinal bacteria in malabsorption syndromes; ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease; polyps of the gastrointestinal tract; motility of the gastrointestinal tract; angiographic examination of the gastrointestinal tract; hepatic coma; tumours of the liver; cirrhosis of the liver; the liver in malnutrition; the physio-chemical properties of bile; regulation of synthesis and secretion of pancreatic enzymes; interaction between gastric and pancreatic secretions; immunological estimation of pancreatic enzymes; the early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer; post-vagotomy syndromes; gastrin; and gastroenterological manifestations of endemic infections.

Symposia on the following items will be organized: 'Chemotherapy of gastrointestinal cancer' (E. Watkins, Jr, Boston, USA); 'Early diagnosis of gastric cancer' (M. Oi, Tokyo, Japan); 'Electron-microscopic examination of the liver' (Ch. Rouiller, Geneva, Switzerland); 'Gastritis and stomach ulcer' (M. Siurala, Helsinki, Finland); 'Hepatic coma' (G. A. Martini, Marburg