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The object of *Gut* is to publish original papers and reviews concerned with practice and research in the field of gastroenterology. The field is that of alimentary, hepatic, or pancreatic disease, and papers may cover the medical, surgical, radiological, or historical aspects. They may also deal with the basic sciences concerned with the alimentary tract, including experimental work. The report of a single case will be accepted only if it is of sufficient interest in relation to a wider field of research.

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 lesser survey.

COMMUNICATIONS Papers should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1. 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.

ILLUSTRATIONS Diagrams should be drawn in indian ink on white paper, Bristol board, or blue-squared paper. The legends for illustrations should be typed on a separate sheet and numbered to conform with the relevant illustrations. Photographs and photomicrographs should be on glossy paper, unmounted. TABLES should not be included in the body of the text, but should be typed on a separate sheet.

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 mg-equiv/l. as well as (or alternatively to) mg/100 ml.

REFERENCES These should be made by inserting the name of the author followed by year of publication in brackets. At the end of the paper, references should be arranged in alphabetical order of authors' names. Such references should give author's name, followed by initials and year of publication in brackets, the title of the article quoted, the name of the journal in which the article appeared, the volume number in arabic numerals, followed by the numbers of first and last pages of the article. Abbreviations are according to *World Medical Periodicals* (published by B.M.A. for World Medical Association), thus: Chandler, G. N., Cameron, A. D., Nunn, A. H., and Street, D. F. (1960). Early investigations of haematemesis. *Gut*, 1, 6-13.

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GUT

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Yearly Subscription (12 numbers): Inland £8 8s, abroad £9 5s, single number 17s. 6d.

Signposts

SKIN LESIONS IN ULCERATIVE COLITIS (page 255) A comprehensive clinical study based on a series of 415 cases of ulcerative colitis: 20 patients (14 women) had skin disease thought to be associated with the underlying bowel disease. Seven had more than one type of skin lesion. Eight women had erythema nodosum associated with exacerbation of the colitis. Seven women had chronic ulcers (pyoderma gangrenosum). There was no correlation with the extent or severity of the colitis and in one case the ulcer appeared two and a half years after proctectomy. Five patients had papulonecrotic lesions which bore no relationship to the severity of the underlying colitis. Three women developed erythematous plaques on the shins which ulcerated in several places, but these small ulcers did not coalesce.

OSTEOMYELITIS COMPLICATING REGIONAL ENTERITIS (page 264) Two patients with this hitherto undescribed complication are reported.

SMALL INTESTINAL HISTOCHEMICAL AND HISTOLOGICAL CHANGES IN ULCERATIVE COLITIS (page 267) No evidence of enzyme deficiencies was found in the small intestine in ulcerative colitis and this cannot therefore be a factor in causing malnutrition in these patients.

AETIOLOGY OF ULCERATIVE COLITIS (page 270) Many theories, and promising new ideas critically reviewed, but still no final answer!

SCLEDERMATOUS INVOLVEMENT OF THE STOMACH AND THE SMALL AND LARGE BOWEL (page 285) Five out of 10 patients had radiological evidence of gastric involvement and one of these developed true pyloric stenosis. Small bowel involvement presented a variety of clinical pictures including upper abdominal symptoms, pseudo-obstruction, chronic or intermittent diarrhoea, and malabsorption. Some cases were asymptomatic. The large bowel was involved in five patients, and in four of these constipation, either chronic and intractable or alternating with episodes of diarrhoea, was a striking symptom.

ROLE OF PARASITES IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF INTESTINAL MALABSORPTION IN HOOKWORM DISEASE (page 293) It seems that neither the severity of the infection nor its

duration correlates with the malabsorption syndrome in hookworm disease.

CLINICAL TRIAL OF DEGLYCYRRHIZINIZED LIQUORICE IN GASTRIC ULCER (page 299) In a double blind trial a statistically significant beneficial effect was demonstrated in the healing of chronic gastric ulcer and without any side effects.

PEPTIC ACTIVITY AFTER THE ADMINISTRATION OF PENTAGASTRIN AND IN GASTRODUODENAL DISEASE (page 303) Two major proteolytic components of human gastric juice are known, one having its maximum activity at pH 1.8, the other being most active at pH 2.2. Pepsin with maximum activity at pH 2.2 is dominant in normal subjects and in patients with duodenal ulcer. In patients with active gastric ulcer the dominant peptic activity is at pH 1.8. The administration of Pentagastrin causes a relative increase in the secretion of the pepsin.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES IN THE HOLLANDER INSULIN TEST (page 307) Preoperative tests showed that the secretory output of acid in response to insulin was greater in men than in women, the men also achieving significantly higher peak acid concentrations. It may be necessary to apply different criteria when interpreting insulin tests in men and women.

LACTOSE MALABSORPTION AND POSTGASTRECTOMY MILK INTOLERANCE, DUMPING, AND DIARRHOEA (page 311) Seven out of 50 patients after gastric surgery with milk intolerance and diarrhoea due to lactose deficiency responded to treatment with a lactose-free diet. Such patients need dietary supplements of calcium.

TREATMENT OF OVERT AND SUBCLINICAL MALABSORPTION IN HAITI (page 315) Intestinal abnormalities observed in asymptomatic residents and in patients with protein deficiency in areas where tropical sprue is endemic are, in some instances at least, related to the lesion of tropical sprue as both respond favourably to similar therapy.

TRANSDUODENAL ENDOSCOPY (page 323) A technique for endoscopic inspection of the upper intestine and stomach at laparotomy for haematemesis is described.

The postoperative tests indicated a higher incidence of incomplete vagotomy in the male patients (38%) than in the females (18%), the difference between the two groups being significant. This difference was not related to the difference in weight between the men and the women.

Preoperative tests showed that the secretory output of acid in response to insulin was greater in men than women; the men also achieved significantly higher peak acid concentrations after insulin.

It is suggested that it may be necessary to apply different criteria when interpreting insulin tests in men and women.

We wish to express our appreciation to Miss M. McDermott for help with the analyses, and to staff nurses Alexander, Pope, and Sherman for help with the tests.

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The March 1969 Issue

THE MARCH 1969 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Signposts

Selection of the operation for duodenal ulcer NORMAN C. TANNER

The act of vomiting in man K. LUMSDEN and W. S. HOLDEN

Effect of dried beans and silicone on intestinal hydrogen and methane production in man D. H. CALLOWAY and S. E. BURROUGHS

Systemic sclerosis and small bowel involvement RODNEY BLUESTONE, M. MACMAHON, and J. M. DAWSON

Adrenal and clinical responses to corticotrophin and prednisone in inflammatory disease of the colon M. FRIEDMAN, J. M. HINTON, and J. E. LENNARD-JONES

Fate of the rectum and distal colon after subtotal colectomy for ulcerative colitis B. I. KORELITZ, W. P. DYCK, and F. M. KLION

Sodium conservation by the small intestine in a patient with chronic ileostomy diarrhoea N. D. GALLAGHER, D. D. HARRISON, J. V. WYATT, and A. P. SKYRING

Free perforation in regional enteritis K. NASR, D. A. MOROWITZ, J. G. D. ANDERSON, and J. B. KIRSNER

External pancreatic response to food and its relation to the maximal secretory capacity in dogs F. W. HENRIKSEN and H. WORNING

Continuous recording of pH in the duodenal bulb after food and alkali HUGH H. LAWSON and RANDOLPH A. ROVELSTAD

Effect of low dosage of carbenoxolone sodium on gastric ulcer healing and acid secretion J. B. COCKING and J. N. MACCAIG

Role of gastric secretion in iron absorption A. JACOBS and P. M. MILES

Gastric plasmacytoma DAPHNE H. LINE and RONALD H. LEWIS

Unclassified oesophageal motor disorders simulating achalasia WALTER J. HOGAN, CARLTON R. CAFLISCH, and DANIEL H. WINSHIP

Alcohol degradation and bromsulphthalein metabolism in acute alcoholic liver disease PATRICIA WILKINSON, DENIS M. O'DAY, and JAMES G. RANKIN

Techniques

Use of the Heidelberg pH capsule in the routine assessment of gastric acid secretion B. H. R. STACK

Notes and activities

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1, price 17s. 6d.

Notes and activities

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS

Lecture Notes on Gastroenterology by Richard D. Tonkin and J. A. Parrish. The standard books on gastroenterology are generally too big for medical students except for reference purposes, and with this book Drs Tonkin and Parrish have filled a gap in the medical literature. It has been written with the aim of providing the undergraduate student with a simple framework of gastrointestinal disorders on which he or she can build clinical experience. The introductory investigations in each section will be welcomed by students and although there are only 215 pages, a remarkable amount of up-to-date information is given. This book can be recommended by medical teachers for junior students. Published by Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd, Oxford and Edinburgh, £1 2s. 6d.

Little Strokes by Walter C. Alvarez. This may seem to be an unusual book to draw attention to in a gastroenterological journal but there are two main reasons for doing so. First, the author, Dr Walter C. Alvarez, is one of the best known people in the world of gastroenterology and his book *Nervous indisposition and pain* remains one of the classics in our speciality. The other reason is that this new book is an outstanding contribution to the practice of medicine and can benefit gastroenterology as much as other specialities. What the author has done is to bring together not only the experiences in the literature but also in his own long practice and, indeed, his own personal medical history, into a most readable and informative book of 156 pages. His thesis is that minor embolic upsets in the brain can give rise to a very wide variety of clinical pictures, some of them producing continued bizarre symptoms. The clue to a diagnosis may be an observation of a relative that the case history has followed a 'bad dizzy attack' which the patient himself will seldom mention. The various alimentary syndromes can include 'constant abdominal burning misery' and other unexplainable pains, sudden loss of appetite and weight with the weight staying steady at a lower level, a burning sensation of the skin, vomiting, vile taste in the mouth, and burning tongue. The book is richly illustrated by case histories and anecdotes, and the world literature splendidly surveyed. This little volume is indeed unique. Published in 1968 by J. B. Lippincott Co, Philadelphia and Toronto, and distributed in the United Kingdom by Pitman Ltd, London. Price £3 15s.

Current Medical References 5th edition, 1967. Edited by Milton J. Chatton and Paul J. Sanazaro. This edition represents the continued effort of many teachers and clinicians to provide a list of good references in the literature in English of many aspects of medicine with special reference to clinical practice. Each section lists the most important recent contributions. One large section

of the book covers alimentary disorders, and another section liver diseases. For those who wish to get to grips with a new field this could prove to be a very useful publication, and it is certainly one which should be found in departmental libraries. Published by Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd, Oxford, £4 10s.

For those who wish to keep up with the current literature, week by week, one of the best and least expensive methods is to subscribe to the *Contents List* of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London, W.12 (5 guineas annually). This list contains the names of journals arriving each week, and provides a very simple and quick method of becoming apprised of gastroenterological publications.

The fourth *Annual Symposium on Advanced Medicine* is the published report of proceedings held at the Royal College of Physicians, London, in February 1968, published by Pitmans Publishing Co, edited by Oliver Wrong, price 55s.

The main emphasis at this annual conference was the metabolic roots of disease, and a whole day was spent on each of the three subjects in which recent advances have been particularly impressive: the kidney, the alimentary tract, and infections. The following papers were presented in relation to gastroenterology. Fat absorption from the small intestine: 'The luminal phase', A. M. Dawson; 'The coeliac syndrome', Brian Creamer; 'The effects of bacteria on intestinal function', C. C. Booth and Soad Tabaqchali; 'Protein malnutrition', G. Neale; 'Jaundice', Roger Williams; 'Humoral causes of diarrhoea', W. Sircus and Adam N. Smith; 'Ulcerative colitis', S. Truelove; 'Normal and abnormal bowel habits', J. E. Lennard-Jones. The annual reports of these College conferences are proving exceptionally good value and justify a standing order.

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 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. Practically all the places at the meeting have been booked but there may be cancellations. Any member who wishes to come and has not booked should apply to Dr J. Lennard-Jones, 9 Well Road, London, NW3 (01-435-6990) at once. A Registration Fee of £2 (which will not include the cost of the dinner) will be charged to all members and guests.

EUROPEAN PANCREATIC CLUB The fourth symposium of the European Pancreatic Club will be held in Goet-

tingen, 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 Universitätsklinik, 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 Lahn, Germany); 'Intestinal mucosal enzymes' (A. Dahlquist, Lund, Sweden); 'Local immunoglobulins in the intestine' (P. Crabbé, Louvain, Belgium); 'Patho-

physiology of the oesophagus'; 'Polyps and polyposis of the colon' (C. E. Welch, Boston, USA); 'post-vagotomy syndromes' (J. A. Williams, Birmingham, England); 'Regulation of the external pancreatic secretion' (M. I. Grossman, Los Angeles, USA); 'Transplantation of the liver', and 'Ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease' (S. C. Truelove, Oxford, England).

Free communications will be accepted within the limitations of space and time. Facilities for showing *scientific films* will be available and a *scientific exhibition* will be arranged.

Commercial Exhibition Instruments, drugs, scientific literature *etc.* will be shown at this exhibition.

Social Programme A banquet and receptions are planned, and a special programme will be arranged for associate members, including excursions, visits to social and cultural institutions.

Languages The official languages of the congress are English, French, German, and Spanish.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL MEETINGS

The eighth *International Congress of Nutrition* will be held in Prague from 28 August to 5 September 1969. All information may be obtained from the Secretariat, Sokolská, 31, Prague 2, Czechoslovakia.

A symposium on *Lactulose* will be held in Baden, near Vienna, on Monday 8 September, 1969 organized by the Vienna Academy of Medicine. The aim of the meeting is to provide a working session uniting all European investigators with clinical and experimental experience in the use of lactulose. All enquiries should be addressed to Priv. Doz. Dr U. P. Haemmerli, Kantonsspital, Zurich, Medizinische Universitätsklinik, Rämistrasse 100, CH-8006, Zurich, Switzerland.

A postgraduate course on *Peptic ulcer* sponsored by the American Gastroenterological Association will be held on 14, 15, and 16 August at Aspen, Colorado. Its purpose will be to review recent significant advances in knowledge of the pathogenesis and management of peptic ulcer. Further details may be obtained from the course Chairman, Morton I. Grossman, AGA Postgraduate Course, P.O. Box 20056, Denver, Colorado 80220.

The tenth *Argentinian Congress of Gastroenterology* will be held from 30 November to 5 December 1969 at Mar del Plata. All information can be obtained from the Secretary General, Santa Fe 1171, Buenos Aires.