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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 for short papers on laboratory and surgical techniques and methods of investigation.

**COMMUNICATIONS** Papers should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JR. Papers are accepted only on the understanding that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee. 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 the *Biochemical Journal*. In any paper concerning electrolyte metabolism, it is desirable that data be calculated as m-equiv/l.

**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 BMA 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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At the present time it would appear that the presence of the antireticulin antibody and its titre, as demonstrated by indirect immunofluorescence, is a useful test in establishing the diagnosis of coeliac disease, dermatitis herpetiformis, and Crohn's disease. It would seem to be of particular help in the diagnosis of coeliac disease in children as there is a particularly high incidence of the antibody in this disease and because Crohn's disease is rare in children.

We are grateful to various colleagues for contributing sera, to Dr N. Maldonado (Chief of Haematology, University Hospital, San Juan, Puerto Rico) for providing sera from patients with tropical sprue and to Mr S. Kumar for expert technical assistance.

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Seah, P. P., Fry, L., Hoffbrand, A. V., and Holborow, E. J. (1971a). Tissue antibodies in dermatitis herpetiformis and adult coeliac disease. *Lancet*, 1, 834-836.  
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Von Essen, R., Savilahti, E., and Pelkonen, P. (1972). Reticulin antibody in children with malabsorption. *Lancet*, 1, 1157-1159.

The March 1973 Issue

THE MARCH 1973 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Ammonia production by intestinal bacteria  
ANGELA VINCE, A. M. DAWSON, N. PARK, AND F. O'GRADY

The effect of perfusion on the flora of the excluded colon  
ANGELA VINCE, R. BOWN, F. O'GRADY, AND A. M. DAWSON

Volatile fatty acids in the faeces of patients in 'germ-free' isolation  
D. GOMPERTZ, A. P. BROOKS, H. GAYA, AND A. S. D. SPIERS

Free perforation in Crohn's disease  
DAVID M. STEINBERG, W. TREVOR COOKE, AND J. ALEXANDER-WILLIAMS

Nyctohemeral growth hormone levels in children with growth retardation and inflammatory bowel disease  
RONALD W. GOTLIN AND REUBEN S. DUBOIS

Histopathological and electron microscopic studies of lymphangiectasia of the small intestine in Behçet's disease  
HITOSHI ASAKURA, AKIRA MORITA, TETSUO MORISHITA, MASAHARU TSUCHIYA, YOONOSUKE WATANABE, AND YASUHIRO ENOMOTO

The effect of coeliac disease upon bile salts  
T. S. LOW-BEER, K. W. HEATON, W. W. POMARE, AND A. E. READ

Hypoxia and asymmetrical fibrosis of the liver in children  
M. L. GHOSH AND J. L. EMERY

Primary biliary cirrhosis in twin sisters  
M. R. CHOHAN

The nature and incidence of gallstones containing calcium  
D. JUNE SUTOR AND SUSAN E. WOOLEY

The nature of the copper complexes in bile and their relationship to the absorption and excretion of copper in normal subjects and in Wilson's disease  
K. O. LEWIS

Symposium on gastrooesophageal reflux and its complications  
D. A. W. EDWARDS, H. THOMPSON, D. G. SHAW, J. J. MISIEWICZ, J. R. BENNETT, AND BRUCE TORRANCE

Notes and activities

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,  
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, WC1H 9JR, price 87½p

## Notes and activities

**The British Society of Gastroenterology**

The autumn meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology will be held in London from 20 to 22 September 1973 under the presidency of Professor Sheila Sherlock, Editor of *Gut*. The scientific sessions will be held at Imperial College, Kensington, SW7, and the annual dinner at the Cafe Royal, Regent Street, on the evening of Friday, 21 September.

Accommodation will be available in the Halls of Residence at Imperial College for 250 persons in single rooms. Other rooms will be booked for members in hotels in the neighbourhood. Full details and information will be available to members and guests shortly.

**Progress Reports from *Gut***

Copies of this paperback, containing a selection of progress reports published in *Gut* from the beginning of 1970 to April 1972, and chosen to give a bird's eye view of gastroenterology today, can still be obtained from the Publishing Manager, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, price £1.10 including postage.

**Radioimmunoassay and Related Procedures in Clinical Medicine and Research**

The meeting will be held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 10 to 14 September 1973.

The programme will cover all aspects of radioimmunoassay and related procedures and their applications. Particular attention will be given to the *in-vitro* determination of substances of clinical interest such as hormones, vitamins, and drugs. Sections of the programme will be devoted to recently developed techniques for the detection of tumour, viral, and bacterial antigens, and to assays employing labelled antibodies and naturally occurring specific receptors.

Please apply to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Kärrntner Ring 11-13, A-1010 Vienna, Austria, for further information.

## Notes on books

**The Joint Committee on Higher Medical Training First Report October 1972.**

(Pp. 34. 20p.) The Royal College of Physicians, London, 1972. In this first report it is not intended, nor is it possible, to lay down rigid prescriptions for the training of specialists. Any suggested framework in the schedules should be interpreted flexibly, allowing for variations in time, for the special needs of individuals, and for local circumstances. The proposals for gastroenterology are as follows:

**General Professional Training**

This will occupy the three years after registration. It will provide a thorough grounding in general medicine but may include some experience in gastroenterology.

**Higher Specialist Training****(a) GENERAL PHYSICIAN WITH SPECIAL EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING**

Four years will normally be required in approved posts:

**(i) General experience**

The trainee will have one or two years' further experience in general medicine.

**(ii) Obligatory experience**

During this period the trainee should spend not less than two years in approved gastroenterological posts.

**(iii) Recommended experience**

During a part of the training period the trainee should be relieved of service commitments for not less than one year, for investigative work relevant to gastroenterology undertaken in the UK or elsewhere. Opportunities for research or special study should be available throughout the period of specialist training.

**(iv) Acceptable experience**

A period overseas, provided it was relevant to gastroenterology, would form an acceptable part of training.

**(b) FOR THOSE INTENDING TO PRACTISE EXCLUSIVELY IN THE SPECIALTY**

Four years will normally be required, as under (a): As above except that the trainee should spend not less than three years in approved gastroenterological posts.

**Que Faire Devant 1 Une diarrhée chez l'adulte** by D. Cattani and E. Pappo

(Pp. 100; illustrated, 15 F); 2 **Des douleurs épigastriques chez l'adulte** by P. Bernades (Pp. 98; illustrated. 15 F). Masson et Cie, Paris, 1972. This is a new French series of small books of not more than 100 pages each and giving a simple, practical account of main symptoms written for students and general practitioners.

**The Medical Annual The Year-Book of Treatment.**

Edited by Sir Ronald Bodley Scott and R. Milnes Walker. (Pp. xxxiv + 482; illustrated. £6.00.) John Wright and Sons, Ltd, Bristol. 1972. **1972 Year Book of Medicine** Edited by David E. Rogers, Roger M. des Prez, Paul Heller, T. Joseph Reeves, Norton J. Greenberger, Philip K. Bondy, and Franklin H. Epstein. (Pp. 670; illustrated. £6.80.) Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago. Distributed in UK and Europe by Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd, London. 1972. These two annual publications from both sides of the Atlantic cover the whole of general medicine with special sections on gastroenterology. Norton J. Greenberger edits the alimentary and biliary section of the American publication. 'The Medical Annual' has a new look but the general contents remain as before. Denis Burkitt contributes a section on geographical pathology related to disease, and Professor Sheila Sherlock, Sir Francis Avery Jones, J. C. Goligher, and R. E. Horton cover the gastroenterology sections.

**Experimental Biology and Medicine.**

**Neurochemistry of Hepatic Coma.** Vol. 4. Edited by E. Polli. (Pp. vi + 110; illustrated. £3.70.) S. Karger, Basel. This monograph is concerned with the functional changes in the brain in hepatic encephalopathy. The authors are largely neurologically based and their contributions cover a variety of topics not known to gastroenterologists. The monograph, therefore, fills a gap.

**Medical Geography. Techniques and Field Studies.**

Edited by N. D. McGlashan. (Pp. xi + 336; illustrated £4.50). Methuen and Co., Ltd, London. Barnes and Noble, New York. 1972.) This book on medical geography includes studies on gastric cancer in South Africa, food contamination and oesophageal cancer, and the geographical epidemiology of infective hepatitis. The book is primarily concerned with techniques and field studies and opens up very interesting research prospects.

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# Progress Reports from Gut

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**Edited by Sheila Sherlock**

A survey of gastroenterology from Progress Reports published in Gut—  
The journal of the British Society  
of Gastroenterology—over the  
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