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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.

COMMUNICATIONS Two copies of 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.

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ETHICS Ethical considerations will be taken into account in the assessment of papers (see the Medical Research Council's publications on the ethics of human experimentation, and the World Medical Association's code of ethics, known as the Declaration of Helsinki (see *British Medical Journal* (1964), 2, 177)).

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 mEq/l. All measurements except blood pressure should be expressed in SI units (see *Journal of Clinical Pathology* (1974), 27, 590-597; *British Medical Journal* (1974), 4, 490), followed by traditional units in parentheses. Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.

REFERENCES In the text these should follow the Harvard system—that is, name followed by date: James and Smith (1970). If there are more than two authors they should be cited as James *et al.* (1970) even the first time that they appear. The list of references should be typed in double spacing and in alphabetical order on a separate sheet. Such references should give the author's name, followed by initials and year of publication in brackets, *the title of the article quoted*, the name (in full) of the journal in which the article appeared, the volume number in arabic numerals, followed by numbers of first and last pages of article.

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The October 1976 Issue

THE OCTOBER 1976 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

- Mucosal gastrin concentration, molecular forms of gastrin, number and ultrastructure of G-cells in patients with duodenal ulcer W. CREUTZFELDT, R. ARNOLD, C. CREUTZFELDT, AND N. S. TRACK
- Identification of the D₁-cell as the source of human pancreatic polypeptide (HPP) PH. HEITZ, JULIA M. POLAK, S. R. BLOOM, AND A. G. E. PEARSE
- Coeliac disease and dermatitis herpetiformis: further studies of their relationship B. B. SCOTT, SANDRA YOUNG, S. M. RAJAH, JANET MARKS, AND M. S. LOSOWSKY
- Blood pH: a test for assessment of severity in proctocolitis R. CAPRILLI, P. VERNIA, O. COLANERI, AND A. TORSOLI
- Analysis of the lympho-plasmacytic infiltrate in Crohn's disease with special reference to identification of lymphocyte-subpopulations S. G. M. MEUWISSEN, THEA M. FELTKAMP-VROOM, A. BRUTEL DE LA RIVIÈRE, A. E. G. KR. VON DEM BORNE, AND G. N. TYTGAT
- Contrasting features and responses to treatment of severe chronic active liver disease with and without hepatitis B_s antigen S. W. SCHALM, W. H. J. SUMMERSKILL, G. L. GITNICK, AND LILA R. ELVEBACK
- Demonstration of an intracellular copper-binding protein by orcein staining in long-standing cholestatic liver diseases M. SALASPURO AND P. SIPPONEN
- Morphological types of hepatocellular hyalin in Indian childhood cirrhosis: an ultrastructural study N. C. NAYAK AND S. ROY
- Arterial blood gas tensions during upper gastrointestinal endoscopy P. J. WHORWELL, C. L. SMITH, AND K. J. FOSTER
- Progress report Cholangiography in the jaundiced patient ELWYN ELIAS
- The British Society of Gastroenterology
British Society for Digestive Endoscopy
Notes and activities
Books

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, WC1H 9JR, price £2.00, including postage

Notes and activities

Tripartite Meeting in Gastroenterology

A tripartite meeting on 'Nutritional Aspects of Gastroenterology' has been organised by St. Mark's Hospital, The London Hospital, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital at the City University, St. John Street, London EC1 on 30 June and 1 July 1977.

The sessions will be chaired by Dr A. M. Dawson, Professor C. C. Booth, Dr J. E. Lennard-Jones, and Professor J. F. Soothill. Details may be obtained from Miss E. McIntyre, St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, London EC1. (Tel. 01-253 1050).

Books

Disorders of the Gastrointestinal Tract, Disorders of the Liver, Nutritional Disorders Edited by John M. Dietschy. (Price not stated.) Grune and Stratton: New York, San Francisco, London. 1976. This is Volume I of the *Science and Practice of Clinical Medicine*, with Jay P. New Sanford, MD, as editor-in-chief.

The special contribution of this new major textbook of gastroenterology is that clinical problems are approached from the standpoint of general symptom complexes as well as specific diseases. In each main section of the volume there is an initial review of the normal physiological and biochemical functions of the organ. This is followed by a discussion of the specific diagnostic procedures available for this particular system. The clinical manifestations of disease are approached first from the viewpoint of differential diagnosis of major symptoms. For example, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, obstructive jaundice, or malabsorption states. The final subsection relating to each organ provides detailed descriptions of individual diseases.

A weakness of textbooks in general in the past has been the assumption that patients arrive with the diagnosis, and they omit the really difficult phase of reaching it. The concept is an excellent one, but is it really possible to cover satisfactorily the entire spectrum of gastroenterology, including liver and pancreas, and indeed nutrition as well, in one volume? The problem with all comprehensive textbooks along such lines is the difficulty of conveying to the reader the relative values of investigations or treatment, particularly important in relation to the commoner syndromes. There are omissions and the most startling one, perhaps, is the failure to include more than a passing reference to constipation. With all the work going on in relation to bulking agents and dietary fibre this should have been given priority, particularly when nutrition is included as a main section of the book.

F. AVERY JONES

Gastrointestinal Radiology is a new quarterly journal publishing original articles dealing with clinical radiology of the alimentary tract. It will cover all aspects of gastrointestinal radiology, emphasising diagnostic radiology, including special procedures, ultrasound, nuclear medicine, and other methods. The

editors-in-chief are Morton A. Meyers (The New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical School), and Gary G. Ghahremani (Medical College of Virginia, Richmond). The subscription rate of the new journal, published by Springer, is DM 158 and US \$64.80 plus postage and handling.

Synthetic Antidiarrheal Drugs—Synthesis—Preclinical and Clinical Pharmacology Edited by William Van Bever. (Pp. 362; illustrated; Sw.F. 100). Dekker: New York. 1976. The subject is discussed by scientists who have been directly involved in the development and clinical applications of the drugs considered. Individual chapters examine the pathology of diarrhoea, the chemistry of modern anti-diarrhoeals, and the preclinical studies on these compounds. Antidiarrhoeal therapy in clinical practice and the potential for abuse of modern antidiarrhoeals are also considered.

Immunology: An Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Principles of the Immune Responses By Herman N. Eisen. (Pp. 624; illustrated. £10-15.) Harper & Row: Hagerstown, Maryland. Self-education in a rapidly growing field of medical science presents continuing difficulties. This book can be seen as an admirable bridge between basic immunology and the present frontiers of knowledge. The book is a reprint of the immunological section of *Microbiology* by Davis, Dulbecco, Eisen, Ginsberg, and Wood.

Authors who wish to have their manuscripts acknowledged are asked to enclose a stamped addressed postcard or an international reply coupon.

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Two years have elapsed since the publication of the first book of 'Progress Reports from Gut', the journal of the British Society of Gastroenterology. So rapid has been the growth of knowledge in this subject that already sufficient advances have been made to merit a second selection. Again the Editor has made an arbitrary choice of topics. They have been selected to give as wide a coverage of the subject as possible. They include a symposium on the oesophagus, a discussion of techniques such as endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography, the immunology of colonic disease, endocrines and the gut, tests of pancreatic function, intestinal parasites, drugs and the liver, and chronic hepatitis.

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