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COMMUNICATIONS Two copies of papers and figures should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Papers are accepted only on the written understanding, signed by all authors, that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee, and that all authors agree to publication in *Gut*. Manuscripts should follow the Vancouver conventions (see *Br Med J* 1979; 1: 532-5. *Gut* 1979; 20: 651-2). 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 short summary should be provided at the beginning of the paper.

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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 *Br Med J* 1964; 2:177)).

SI UNITS All measurements except blood pressure are expressed in SI units. In the text they should be followed by traditional units in parentheses. In tables and illustrations value are given in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the International System of Units and some useful conversion

factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977). **NB: Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.**

REFERENCES These follow the Vancouver system - that is, references numbered consecutively in the text and listed numerically with titles abbreviated in the style of *Index Medicus, Standard journal article* - (list all authors when six or less; when seven or more, list first three and add *et al*): James A, Joyce B, Harvey T. Effect of long-term cimetidine. *Gut* 1979; 20: 123-4. **NB: Accurate punctuation is essential.**

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Books

Intestinal fistulas By J Alexander-Williams and Miles Irving. (Pp. 230; illustrated; price not stated.) Bristol: John Wright, 1982.

This book is an admirable attempt to cover all the problems of every type of intestinal fistula, as well as their associated metabolic and nutritional disorders.

The book is not a long one and is divided into 13 well selected chapters, including one on 'general management' and another on 'organisation and care'. But each chapter on the various types of fistula (pancreatic, biliary, gastric, etc) includes advice on skin care and nutritional requirements in each case. Because the prose style is admirably concise and the illustrations informative, there are few situations that are not covered by the book, and as one might expect from them, the authors give sensible dogmatic guidance when it is required.

If for nothing else, I would recommend this book for the way in which it presents the evidence for a 'conservative' – that is, nonoperative – approach to most fistulas, because modern appliances and nutritional support systems can maintain the patient in reasonable health while the fistula is given every chance to close spontaneously.

I suspect that the authors, in writing this excellent book, have also established that some of the bad cases should be managed in centres with special experience of such problems, especially if surgical reintervention seems likely. But the book should be available to all gastrointestinal departments, and read by the surgeons whether they are 'aspirants' or established consultants.

C V MANN

Basic clinical ultrasound: BIR teaching series 4 By Hylton B Meire and Pat Farrant. (Pp. 170; illustrated; price not stated). London: British Institute of Radiology, 1982.

This slender volume on diagnostic ultrasonography is published by the British Institute of Radiology, and is directed mainly at radiographers and radiologists who wish to familiarise themselves rapidly with the technology and clinical applications of ultrasound. The first third of the book deals with the history, physics, and technology of ultrasound and makes easy and informative reading for someone unfamiliar with the field. Thereafter, the applications of ultrasound are detailed according to the various body systems. I read the chapter on the

gastrointestinal system with interest and if it is representative of the rest of the clinical sections this book will have much to offer. The authors present the information under the headings – technique, normal appearances, and clinical use. The text is crisp and lucid with no unnecessary padding. The quality of illustration is surprisingly good and clearly labelled which enables the reader to understand what is being shown. Perhaps a small section could have been devoted to ascites, the detection of which by ultrasonography is simple, sensitive, and accurate. This book can be recommended. It can be read not only by those directly involved with ultrasonography but also by many clinicians who wish to appreciate a new and seemingly incomprehensible branch of radiology.

I A D BOUCHIER

Books received

Neurosis and the social environment By Scott Henderson, D G Byrne, and Paul Duncan-Jones. (Pp. 279; illustrated; \$32.50.) New York: Academic Press, 1982.

Metabolic-endocrine responses to food intake in infancy Edited by G Zoppi. (Pp. 115; illustrated; \$39.00.) Basel: Karger, 1982.

Chemotherapy of malaria Edited by L J Brice-Chwatt. (Pp. 261; illustrated; Sw.fr 30.) Geneva: WHO, 1981.

Drug induced gastric lesions By R Cheli, F Molinari, and A Giacosa. (Pp. 83; illustrated; £13.35.) Padova, Italy: Piccin Medical Books, 1981.

An appreciation: Dr Harry Bockus

Perhaps it is only once in a lifetime that one meets a really great teacher and clinician, and so it was with Dr Harry Bockus, who sadly died earlier this year in his 84th year. He graduated in 1917, served in the US Medical Corps from 1917 to 1919 in Cuba, and it was there that he first learnt Spanish, which was to serve him so well in the South Americas. Early he came under the influence of Max Einhorn, and then settled down in Philadelphia and joined the staff of the Graduate Hospital, which was to be his medical home for the rest of his professional life.

In 1944–46 the first edition of his world-famous book *Gastroenterology* was published. The book was written by Bockus, his colleagues, and

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