interpretation of our results we provide a list of the acid outputs in Table II.

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Your 'Domestically minded doctor' referred to under 'Notes and activities' (Gut, page 132, 1968) is very right in advising lowering the foot end of the bed rather than raising the head end. Most people with troublesome hiatal hernia are past middle age; many are stout and not very nimble and quite a few have to rise through the night to pass urine. If the head end is raised adequately then it is a difficult and even dangerous matter getting in and out of bed, especially through the night. I have now for years advised removing the legs at the foot of the bed to achieve the correct degree of slope. Some may object that this destroys the value of the bed, but I point out that they are scarcely likely to want to realize its cash value in the saleroom in their lifetime, and that it is just a matter of whether they value the more highly the legs of the bed or of themselves.

DOUGLAS NEEDHAM
Aberdeen

Notes and activities

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES The Ninth Annual General Meeting of the British Association for Cancer Research will be held at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Cleveland Street, London W1, from Monday 23 September to Wednesday 25 September 1968. It will take the form of a symposium on 'Aetiological factors in lymphomas'. The main sessions are on the 'Incidence of lymphomas in man' and 'Induction of lymphomas in experimental animals (23 September), and 'Roles of viruses and immunological factors' (24 September). The Conference Lecture will be delivered on 25 September by R. A. Good (USA). All information can be obtained from: Dr G. Bennett, Hon. Secretary, Courtauld Institute, Middlesex Hospital, London W1.

British Society of Gastroenterology The Annual Meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology will be held in London at The Royal College of Physicians and The Royal College of Surgeons from Thursday 7 November to Saturday 9 November 1968. The programme will include a symposium on cancer of the oesophagus.

The first National Congress of Gastroenterology and the third International Symposium on Viral Hepatitis and Posthepatic Sequelae will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, from Tuesday 1 October to Saturday 5 October 1968. The plenary sessions will be devoted to 'Gastroduodenal ulcer', 'Diseases of the operated stomach', and 'Endoscopy and isotope diagnosis'. Smaller discussion groups will also be held and participants will be free to present reports at these sessions. All information can be obtained from: Professor Hristo Brailski, Department of Gastroenterology and Dietetics—ISUL, 8 Belo Moré Street, Sofia, Bulgaria.

The Fifth International Congress of Dietetics will be held at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, DC, USA, from 8 to 12 September 1969. All information can be obtained from: Miss Edith A. Jones, Chairman, The 5th International Congress of Dietetics, the American Dietetic Association, 620 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill., 60611, USA.

The Fourth World Congress of Gastroenterology will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 12 to 18 July 1970. The scientific programme is a comprehensive one, and as well as the formal papers symposia and free communications will be included on subjects of importance to gastroenterologists. All further information can be obtained from: The Secretariat, 4th World Congress of Gastroenterology, c/o Dis Congress Service, 36 Skindergade, 1159 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

GASTROENTEROLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA The Society now has 176 members. The office bearers and members of council remain unchanged for another 12 months.