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Gut publishes 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 and figures 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. 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS Manuscripts will not be acknowledged unless a stamped addressed postcard or international reply coupon is enclosed.

ILLUSTRATIONS *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. *Diagrams* These will usually be reduced to 2½ in wide. Lettering should be in either Letraset or stencil, and care should be taken that lettering and symbols are of comparable size. Illustrations should not be inserted in the text, they should be marked on the back with Figure numbers, title of paper, and name of author. All photographs, graphs, and diagrams should be referred to as Figures and should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals. The legends for illustrations should be typed on a separate sheet. *Tables* Tables should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals and each typed on a separate sheet.

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 values are given only in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the International System of Units, and some useful conver-

sion factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977). 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.

CORRECTIONS other than printer's errors may be charged to the author.

REPRINTS Twenty-five reprints will be supplied free of charge. Further reprints will be available on payment of the necessary costs; the number of reprints required should be sent to the Publishing Manager on the form provided with the proof.

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Societe Nationale Francaise De Gastro-Enterologie

*The French National Society of Gastro Enterology is organizing in
VERSAILLES, PALAIS des CONGRES*

The 15th Research Forum in Gastroenterology

12th March 1980

Organizer: P. ZEITOUN, M.D.
Hôpital Robert-Debré. F. 51100 REIMS

The 4th French Meeting of Hepato-Gastroenterology

13th, 14th, 15th March 1980

Organizer: C. LAVERDANT, M.D.
Hôpital Bégin. 69, Avenue de Paris. F. 94160 SAINT-MANDE.

With the participation of:

- ★ **FRENCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE LIVER**
- ★ **FRENCH NATIONAL SOCIETY OF DIGESTIVE ENDOSCOPY**
- ★ **FRENCH NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROCTOLOGY**

Papers will be selected from various topics dealing with Gastro-Enterology, Hepatology, Digestive Endoscopy, Proctology and Research. Eight minutes are allowed for each talk to be given in French, followed by a 7-minute discussion.

Abstracts should be written in French and sent before December 1 1979, to Pr. Yves LE QUINTREC
Hôpital ROTHSCHILD, 33, Boulevard de Picpus. F. 75571 PARIS CEDEX 12.

Further information and application forms may be obtained by writing to the organizers.

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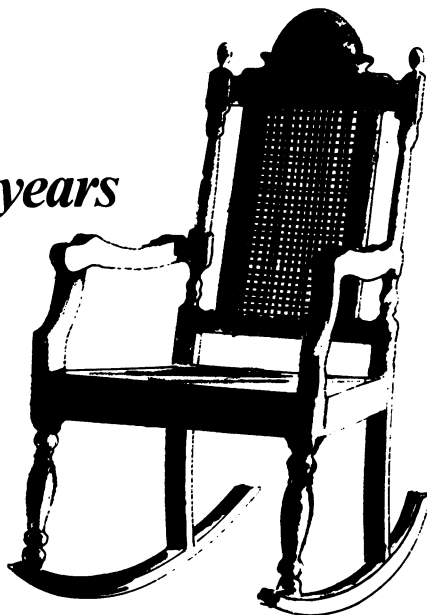
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Notes and activities

BSG Autumn Meeting, Guildford, Surrey

The autumn meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology was held on the campus of the University of Surrey on 18–21 September, with Dr C. C. Booth as President. This was the first meeting to start on Tuesday and end on Friday, and probably the last at which BSG and BSDE functioned as independent Societies. Dr Klaus Schiller and his band of helpers are to be congratulated on the efficiency, friendliness, and imperturbability of their organisation and also on an entertaining and varied social programme. The banquet was outstanding. The scientific sessions, preceded by a teaching half-day, were supported by meetings of specialised groups representing hepatology, histopathology, and radiology. Altogether 178 papers were presented to the BSG and BSDE and additional work was discussed with the aid of posters. The Nobel Prize winner, Professor B. S. Blumberg, traced the history of the discovery of the Australia antigen before a capacity audience. Dr B. C. Morson was installed as the new President of the BSG and Professor A. E. Read was chosen as President-Elect. Professor C. G. Clark retires from being the Society's Treasurer, to be replaced by Dr J. R. Bennett. At the Annual Business Meeting the Society supported, without reservation, the proposed merger with BSDE. The reports of the various officers made clear the continuing vigour and success of BSG, which is now the largest association of its kind in this country.

The Journal of Infection

The Journal of Infection, edited by Hillas Smith, began quarterly publication in March 1979. It is published for the British Society for the Study of Infection by Academic Press and costs £1,600 (UK).

International Meeting on Pancreatic Cancer

The National Pancreatic Cancer Project will sponsor an International Meeting on Pancreatic Cancer on 10 and 11 March 1980 in New Orleans. Information from I. Cohn, Jr., M.D., Louisiana State University Medical Center, 1542 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA.

8th International Congress on Cystic Fibrosis

This congress will be held from 26–30 May 1980 in Toronto, Canada. Details from Congress Secretariat, 8th International Congress on Cystic Fibrosis, c/o Conference Management Associates, 191 College Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

International Biliary Association

The Second Annual Meeting of the International Biliary Association will be held in Maastricht, Holland, University of Limburg, on 5–7 June 1980. Details from: Professor J. M. Greep, Rijksuniversiteit Limburg, Postbus 616, 6200MD Maastricht, Holland.

Books

Topics in Gastroenterology (6) Edited by S. C. Truelove and M. F. Heyworth. (Pp. 346. Illustrated. £14.75 (paperback).) Blackwell: Oxford. 1978.

The latest in the series of 'Topics in Gastroenterology' is as clearly produced as its predecessors with good diagrams. It is well written and has good current referencing.

The three main sections are devoted to dietary fibre, gastric cancer, and chronic hepatitis. The chapters on the properties and physiological and metabolic effects of fibre are outstanding for their clarity, comprehensive coverage, and topicality. There is good general coverage of gastric cancer, though the histological sections are perhaps over-detailed and the section on chemotherapy gives a more optimistic impression of the value of such treatment than I believe to be justified.

The discussion of chronic hepatitis would have been stronger with greater attention to the increasing knowledge of its virology, but, in general, it is straightforward and sensible.

The five final chapters consider biochemical experiments on the liver, fistula in ano, immune complexes in inflammatory bowel disease, and treatment of duodenal ulcer with cimetidine. These give useful summaries of current knowledge, though the discussion of cimetidine should have mentioned the frequency of relapse on stopping long-term treatment, an important clinical consideration.

This book is recommended reading for the general physician; the gastro-

enterologist would also gain, in particular from the discussions of fibre and its properties.

M. LANGMAN

Diagnostic Ultrasound in Gastrointestinal Disease Edited by Kenneth J. W. Taylor. (Pp. 178. Illustrated. £10.) Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1979. Since grey scale ultrasound became commercially available in 1974 its use has increased steadily. Most gastroenterologists now have access to ultrasound diagnostic facilities but many find ultrasonic images difficult to interpret and are uncertain of their place in diagnosis.

This book, which is the first in a series of Clinics in Diagnostic Ultrasound, is intended to be an up-to-date review of the literature and practice. The most basic chapters describe the anatomy and techniques of examination of the various organs, illustrated by a number of anecdotal cases emphasising some of the difficulties of interpretation. The most important part of the book is a critical comparison of ultrasound with computerised tomography of the liver and pancreas, isotope scanning of the liver, and the oral cholecystogram in the diagnosis of gall stones. Using data from recent studies ultrasound fares well in experienced hands.

The book is fully illustrated with clear photographs and diagrams. However, despite increasing evidence that the eye discriminates textural abnormalities better with white images on a black background, a number of the illustrations are still in the opposite convention, which is more widely used in North America. A chapter on ultrasonically guided biopsy from the expert team at Herlev Hospital, Copenhagen, contains the standard description of the technique but updates their extremely good safety record and low false positive rate. Tissue characterisation, a new and important advance, is mentioned only briefly, though it has considerable implications for the clinician. This important book should be read by both ultrasonologists and gastroenterologists to achieve the best use of this rapidly developing technique.

RODNEY H. TAYLOR

References

References in the text and in the list of references should now follow the Vancouver style. (See Instructions to authors.)

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