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EDITOR British Medical Journal

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 devoted to short papers on laboratory and surgical techniques and methods of investigation where these are not part of a lesser survey.

COMMUNICATIONS Papers should be addressed to the Editor, Gut, B.M.A. 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 British Chemical and Physiological Abstracts. In any paper concerning electrolyte metabolism, it is desirable that data be calculated as m-equiv/l. as well as (or alternatively to) mg/100 ml.

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 B.M.A. 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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changed over a period of a year, into cholesterol II. This material was stable at room temperature for several months as was the impure cholesterol II prepared by recrystallization of the impure commercial sample from chloroform or benzene. In gallstones, however, cholesterol II can change into anhydrous cholesterol in just a few weeks. Conversion of cholesterol II into the monohydrate by leaving it in contact with water for several months, using synthetic material and that from gallstones, has not been possible. One cannot speculate as to whether cholesterol II is laid down *in vivo*, although it has been found in gallstones examined within three days after their removal at operation, since even traces of

impurities might accelerate and favour the decomposition of the monohydrate into this compound.

One of us (D.J.S.) thanks the Nuffield Foundation for financial support.

References

Bogren, H., and Larsson, D. (1963). An X-ray diffraction study of crystalline cholesterol in some pathological deposits in man. *Biochim. biophys. Acta (Amst.)*, 75, 65-69.

Sutor, D. J., and Wooley, S. E. (1969). X-ray diffraction studies of the composition of gallstones from English and Australian patients. Gut., 10, 681-683.

Sutor, D. J., and Wooley, S. E. (1971). A statistical survey of the composition of gallstones in eight countries. Gut, 12, 55-64.

The December 1971 Issue

THE DECEMBER 1971 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Serum gastrin in duodenal ulcer Part II Effect of insulin hypoglycaemia J. HANSKY, M. G. KORMAN, D. J. COWLEY, AND J. H. BARON

The influence of the individual surgeon and of the type of vagotomy upon the insulin test after vagotomy DAVID JOHNSTON AND J. C. GOLIGHER

Secretin and cholecystokinin/pancreozymin in combination in the inhibition of gastric acid secretion B. S. BEDI, H. T. DEBAS, A. E. O. WASUNNA, B. F. BUXTON, AND I. E. GILLESPIE

The effect of fat on calcium absorption from a mixed meal in normal subjects, patients with malabsorptive disease, and patients with a partial gastrectomy J. E. AGNEW AND C. D. HOLDSWORTH

⁴⁷Calcium absorption in parenchymatous and biliary liver disease MICHAEL J. WHELTON, A. K. KEHAYO-GLOU, J. E. AGNEW, L. A. TURNBERG, AND SHEILA SHERLOCK

Changes of the smooth endoplasmic reticulum induced by rifampicin in human and guinea-pig hepatocytes A. M. JEZEQUEL, F. ORLANDI, AND L. T. TENCONI

Quantitation of intraepithelial lymphocytes in human jejunum ANNE FERGUSON AND D. MURRAY

The surgical significance of methaemalbuminaemia CAMERON BATTERSBY AND MARJORIE K. GREEN

Glucose absorption kinetics in Zambian African patients with and without systemic bacterial infections G. C. COOK

Mechanism of fat malabsorption in rats infected with *Nippostrongylus brasiliensis* N. D. GALLAGHER, M. R. PLAYOUST, AND L. E. A. SYMONS

Relationship of hepatic iron concentration to histochemical grading and to total chelatable body iron in conditions associated with iron overload R. J. WALKER, J. P. G. MILLER, I. W. DYMOCK, K. B. SHILKIN, AND ROGER WILLIAMS

A search for nitrosamines in East African spirit samples from areas of varying oesophageal cancer frequency C. H. COLLIS, PAULA J. COOK, J. K. FOREMAN, AND J. F. PALFRAMAN

Mycobacteriophage in Crohn's disease KEVIN PARENT AND I. DODD WILSON

Progress report Diarrhoea: Mechanisms and treatment T. S. LOW-BEER AND A. E. READ

Notes and activities

Index to Volume 12

Contents of Volume 12

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

Notes and activities

British Society of Gastroenterology

A one-day meeting of the Society will be held at the Royal College of Physicians, London, on Friday 10 March 1972.

A symposium arranged by the Education Sub-Committee on 'Drug absorption and metabolism' will be held in the morning:

Uptake from the intestinal lumenJ. Nimmo Mucosal transitD. Davies Kinetics of transport into blood in health and diseaseA. Breckenridge Role of hepatic carrier proteinsJ. Levi Hepatic metabolism R. T. Williams Enzyme induction: Causes and effects ...H. Remmer

The afternoon will be devoted to short scientific papers.

Symposium on Digestive Endoscopy

A postgraduate symposium on digestive endoscopy will be organized by the Department of Medicine, Bristol Royal Infirmary on Thursday and Friday, 16 and 17 March 1972.

This meeting should be of interest to all physicians, surgeons, radiologists, and pathologists engaged in or concerned with endoscopy of the gastrointestinal tract.

The programme and application forms for tickets can be obtained from the Postgraduate Secretary, Department of Medicine, Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol BS2 8HW. Telephone Bristol 22041, Ext. 2152. (15722)

14th Czechoslovak Congress of Gastroenterology

The Congress organized by the Czechoslovak Society of Gastroenterology will be held at the Technical University, Prague, from 26 to 29 June 1972.

Information can be obtained from the Secretariat of the 14th Czechoslovak Congress of Gastroenterology with international participation, Sokolská 31, Prague 2, Czechoslovakia.

The Ninth International Congress of Gastroenterology will be held in Paris from 5 to 12 July 1972. There will be 10 symposia on the following subjects:-'Action du pneumogastrique sur l'estomac', 'Absorption cellulaire intes-'Action du pneumogastrique tinale', 'Enteropathies sensibles au gluten', 'Manifestations digestives des tumeurs hormono-secretantes', 'Confrontation de la radiologie et de l'endoscopie dans l'exploration du tube digestif', 'Arterites abdominales', 'Traitement de l'insuffisance hepato-cellulaire aigue et chronique', 'Hemorragies digestives des cirrhotiques', 'Exploration fonctionnelle du pancreas exocrine', and 'Resultats éloignes de la chirurgie pancreatique'. All correspondence should be addressed to S.O.C.F.I.. 7 rue Michel-Ange, F 75-Paris 16e, France.

Notes on books

Enteric Fevers Causing Organisms and Host's Reactions By A. Olitzki. S. Karger, Basel. (pp. x + 486; price SFr. 145.--, US \$34.80, DM145.--, £15.95). This long monograph concentrates on the epidemiology of enteric infections in both static and fluctuant populations. In addition it studies in great depth the problems associated with the host resistance and the effects of endotoxins. It brings together the results of field experiments on human populations and experience with volunteers.

Biogenesis and Physiology of Histamine By Georg Kahlson and Elsa Rosengren. Published by Edward Arnold, London. (318 pages; price £6·00). This contains 24 chapters and covers all aspects of histamine. There is a long section on the functions and status of histamine in the gastric mucosa.

You and Your Guts By Clifford Hawkins. British Medical Association (A Family Doctor booklet) 1971. (31 pages; price 10p). This is a simple account of gastroenterology written for the general public as one of the Family Doctor series. There is much good commonsense advice presented with a characteristic light touch.

It could help to dispel much unnecessary anxiety among the general public.

South Western Regional Cancer Bureau Annual Report 1971. No. 18. (75 pages, South Western Regional Hospital Board). This annual report is always of special interest in view of the remarkably high level of cancer registration and the success of the follow up. This year there is an analysis of cancer of the tongue, mouth, stomach, large intestine and rectum. covering 1959-64. Taking the large bowel with 2023 patients registered, 21.8% survived five years, with 29% survival for those who were treated surgically. When the primary growth was resected the survival rate was 37%. There were 12 cases of argentaffinoma of which seven were in the appendix.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Abdominal Abscesses By Irving M. Ariel, and Kirk K. Kazarian (xxiii + 322 pages, Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, £8-00). This is a surgical monograph on intraabdominal abscesses with contributions covering 18 aspects concerning diagnosis, aetiology, and management.