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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.

There will be a section for short papers on laboratory and surgical techniques and methods of investigation.

COMMUNICATIONS 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.

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.

ETHICS The critical assessment of papers submitted will include ethical considerations. Authors are referred to publications on ethics of human experimentation by the Medical Research Council in Britain and to the code of ethics of the World Medical Association known as the Declaration of Helsinki (see *Brit. med. J.*, 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 m-equiv/l.

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 BMA 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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The June 1974 Issue

THE JUNE 1974 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

- Short-term course and prognosis of Crohn's disease
F. T. de DOMBAL, I. L. BURTON, SUSAN E. CLAMP, AND
J. C. GOLIGHER
- Functional differentiation of human jejunum and
ileum: A comparison of the handling of glucose,
peptides, and amino acids D. B. A. SILK, JOAN P. W.
WEBB, ANNETTE E. LANE, M. L. CLARK, AND A. M.
DAWSON
- Coeliac disease during the teenage period: The value
of serial serum folate estimations D. G. WEIR, AND
D. O'B. HOURIHANE
- The jejunal cellular infiltrate in coeliac disease
complicated by lymphoma R. FERGUSON, P. ASQUITH,
AND W. T. COOKE
- The effect of metoclopramide on gastric emptying
of solid meals B. D. HANCOCK, E. BOWEN-JONES,
R. DIXON, I. W. DYMOCK, AND D. J. COWLEY
- Increased serum immunoglobulin levels following
portacaval shunt in the normal rat M. KERAAN,
O. L. MEYERS, G. H. C. ENGELBRECHT, ROSEMARY
HICKMAN, S. J. SAUNDERS, AND JOHN TERBLANCHE
- The epidemiology of primary biliary cirrhosis:
A survey of mortality in England and Wales A. N.
HAMLYN AND S. SHERLOCK
- ABO blood groups, Rhesus negativity, and primary
biliary cirrhosis A. N. HAMLYN, J. S. MORRIS, AND
S. SHERLOCK
- Effects of haemoperfusion through charcoal or
XAD-2 resin on an animal model of fulminant
liver failure M. J. WESTON, B. G. GAZZARD, B. H.
BUXTON, J. WINCH, A. L. MACHADO, H. FLAX, AND
ROGER WILLIAMS
- The organic matrix of gallstones D. JUNE SUTOR AND
SUSAN E. WOOLEY
- Technique*
Use of a duodenal capsule for localization of upper
gastrointestinal haemorrhage RICHARD R. BABB AND
CHARLES B. BEAL
- Progress report* Peptide absorption in man D. B. A.
SILK
- Progress report* Radioimmunoassay of intestinal
hormones S. R. BLOOM
- British Society for Digestive Endoscopy
- Notes and activities
- Notes on books

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK HOUSE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, WC1H 9JR, price 87½p

Notes and activities

Distinguished Service Award for Liver Research

The Editor of *Gut*, Professor Sheila Sherlock, together with Professor Hans Popper of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, are to be the first recipients of the newly created award by the International Association for the Study of the Liver. They will receive their awards at the fifth quadrennial meeting of the Association in October 1974 in Acapulco, Mexico.

F.A.J.

Fibre Deficiency and Colonic Disorders

'Fibre deficiency and colonic disorders' was the title of a conference held at Chicago University on 17 May 1974. The 35 invited delegates were mainly North American gastroenterologists but included several British speakers. In discussing the entity of dietary fibre, Dr M. Hegsted highlighted our ignorance of the chemical nature of plant cell wall material and of its fate in the gut. M. A. Eastwood explained how fibrous polysaccharides form a matrix with water, and exert ion-binding effects. The properties vary greatly with the source of fibre and the age of the plant, but may be important in determining the metabolism and absorption of bile acids. K. W. Heaton pointed out that semi-synthetic laboratory diets are generally rich in fibre-depleted starch or sugar, and that such diets inhibit bile salt synthesis and cause cholesterol-rich gallstones. He presented evidence that in man adding bran to the diet increases the formation of chenodeoxycholate and can reduce the cholesterol saturation of bile. S. F. Phillips discussed the physiology of colonic absorption, which has to date been studied with abnormally 'clean' colons. To analyse colonic contents under ordinary conditions is most desirable but extraordinarily difficult. As a pointer to another possible area of study, J. Christensen reviewed his work on the electrophysiology of the cat colon. A. M. Connell confirmed the old observation that feeding bran increases stool weight, and also the more recent one that it accelerates slow transit. T. P. Almy (in absentia) put forward equations indicating that pressure within the colon should fall if the colon is consistently distended

by bulkier contents, which suggests that a high fibre diet may be helpful in the management of the irritable bowel syndrome and in the prevention of diverticular disease. A. B. Price reviewed the pathology of diverticular disease. While most of the evidence fits the low-residue, high-pressure theory, there are some epidemiological anomalies which need to be explained. N. S. Painter presented the evidence for this now well known theory, and described the beneficial effects of a bran-enriched diet on the pains, dyspepsia, and bowel disturbances of his patients with diverticular disease. G. J. Devroede, who was designated a roving discussant, emphasized the need for a controlled trial and described some early but inconclusive results of such a trial. A. N. Smith, discussing the surgery of diverticular disease, reported that postoperative patients showed a progressive rise in colonic pressure but this could be prevented by keeping the patients on a bran diet. D. P. Burkitt reviewed the world-wide patterns of colonic tumours and their relationship with other diseases, and postulated that faeces are more carcinogenic on a low-residue diet and have longer to act on the mucosa. The conference, which was ably summarized by J. H. Cummings, included much lively discussion, but it was generally agreed that the relationship between fibre and the gut was an area ripe for exploration.

K.W.H.

Oxford Course on Gastroenterology

A three-day course on gastroenterology will be held in Oxford from 5 to 8 January 1975.

This course is designed for consultants and registrars, including those who do not specialize in gastroenterology. It will consist of selected topics which are of current interest in relation to the normal functioning of the digestive system and its diseases. The course will be held in the Witts lecture theatre in the Radcliffe Infirmary. The fee for the course will be £15.00. For further particulars apply to Dr S. C. Truelove, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

Notes on books

Dental Manifestations of Systemic Disease by David H. Trapnell and J. E. Bowerman (Radiology in Clinical Diagnosis Series). (Pp. x+175; illustrated. £4.95.) Butterworth and Co. (Publishers) Ltd. 1973. It is appropriate for the gastroenterologist to be particularly aware of the oral and dental manifestations of systemic diseases. This monograph brings together many rare disorders.

Abdominal Angiography by W. Wenz in collaboration with G. van Kaick, D. Beduhn, and F.-J. Roth. (Pp. x+217; 183 illustrations, some in colour. DM 72, \$27.80.) Springer Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York. 1974. This volume provides a survey of indications and methods based on a decade of experience. It concentrates on the visceral circulatory disorders, gastrointestinal haemorrhage, portal hypertension, abdominal trauma, and intradabdominal tumours. A third of the book is taken up with excellent x-ray illustrations.

Proceedings of the Fourth International Symposium on Gastrointestinal Motility, held at Banff, Alberta, Canada, September 1973. Edited by E. E. Daniel. (Pp. 690; illustrated. No price given.) This report of nearly 700 pages has been very quickly published and serves as an important record of the fourth international symposium bringing together basic scientists and clinicians interested in gastrointestinal motility.

Bread. An Assessment of the British Bread Industry. (Pp. 89. £1.25, including postage and packing, from Intermediate Publishing Ltd, P.O. Box 6, Kettering, Northants.) This publication by the Technology Assessment Consumerism Centre (TACC) is their first published study. It is written by a team of 10 experts in nutrition, technology, economics, and law. The fibre aspects are fully covered. An important contribution of interest to gastroenterologists and nutritionists.

Book received

Stimulation Viagale et Gastrinique de la Sécrétion Gastrique chez le Chien et chez l'Homme By J. M. Limbosch. (Pp. 255; illustrated. No price given.) Editions Arsacia S.A., Brussels. 1973.