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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.

COMMUNICATIONS Two copies of 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.

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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 *British Medical Journal* (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 mEq/l. All measure-

ments should be expressed in SI units (see *Journal of Clinical Pathology* (1974), 27, 590-597; *British Medical Journal* (1974), 4, 490). Conversion to SI units is the responsibility of the author.

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Progress Reports from Gut—*Series 2*

Edited by Sheila Sherlock

Two years have elapsed since the publication of the first book of 'Progress Reports from Gut', the journal of the British Society of Gastroenterology. So rapid has been the growth of knowledge in this subject that already sufficient advances have been made to merit a second selection. Again the Editor has made an arbitrary choice of topics. They have been selected to give as wide a coverage of the subject as possible. They include a symposium on the oesophagus, a discussion of techniques such as endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography, the immunology of colonic disease, endocrines and the gut, tests of pancreatic function, intestinal parasites, drugs and the liver, and chronic hepatitis.

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The March 1976 Issue

THE MARCH 1976 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

- Inhibition of food-stimulated gastric acid secretion by cimetidine R. E. POUNDER, J. G. WILLIAMS, R. C. G. RUSSELL, G. J. MILTON-THOMPSON, AND J. J. MISIEWICZ
- Duodenal ulcers: early and late onset SHIU KUM LAM AND G. B. ONG
- Comparison of emergent endoscopy and upper gastrointestinal series radiography in acute upper gastrointestinal haemorrhage R. T. KELLER AND G. M. LOGAN, JR
- Gastric lesion in dermatitis herpetiformis D. P. O'DONOGHUE, M. LANCASTER-SMITH, G. D. JOHNSON, AND PARVEEN J. KUMAR
- Simple clinical method of measuring gastric emptying of solid meals D. G. OSTICK, G. GREEN, K. HOWE, I. W. DYMOCK, AND D. J. COWLEY
- Course and prognosis of Crohn's disease s. c. TRUELOVE AND A. S. PEÑA
- Cell mediated immunity to corn starch in starch-induced granulomatous peritonitis ROBERT L. GOODACRE, ROBERT L. CLANCY, RONALD A. DAVIDSON, AND J. EDWARD MULLENS
- Malignant melanoma metastases to the alimentary tract A. FRASER-MOODIE, R. G. HUGHES, S. A. JONES, B. A. SHOREY, AND L. SNAPE
- Measurement of the mean transit time of dietary residue through the human gut J. H. CUMMINGS, D. J. A. JENKINS, AND H. S. WIGGINS
- Transit through the gut measured by analysis of a single stool J. H. CUMMINGS AND H. S. WIGGINS
- Physiopathology of megarectum: the association of megarectum with encopresis P. MEUNIER, P. MOLLARD, AND J-M. MARECHAL
- An evaluation of echography in the diagnosis of pancreatic disease G. FONTANA, L. BOLONDI, M. CONTI, G. PLICCHI, L. GULLO, G. C. CALETTI, AND G. LABO
- Progress report Familial inflammatory bowel disease—heredity or environment? R. M. LEWKONIA AND R. B. MCCONNELL
- Notes and activities
- Notes on books

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Notes and activities

W. A. Bourne, MD, FRCP Died 1 February 1976

W. A. Bourne was the fourth Secretary of the British Society of Gastroenterology, following Dr Hardy, Dr Hunt and Mr Hermon Taylor. He was President in 1963. Born in 1900, 'Bill' Bourne was one of the last of those fine 20th century general physicians who developed a special interest in gastroenterology. Trained at Bart's, which he entered from Christ's College, Cambridge, he was appointed to the honorary staff of the Royal Sussex Hospital in 1936, continuing for a time in general practice and working as a full-time consultant only from 1946. He was one of the first physicians in England to buy a gastroscope and became an expert in its use. This was in 1938, and he soon became recognized as an authority in the field of gastroenterology, while still retaining his wide interests in other branches of medicine. He wrote important papers on oesophageal disturbances, on scleroderma, on gastric cancer, on pernicious anaemia, and on pyogenic liver abscess, as well as continuing to work on rheumatic disorders, renal hypertensive disease, and on psychosomatic disturbances. He was a fine type of general consultant—wise in his judgement, modest but firm in his opinions, loved by his patients, and completely trusted by his colleagues. Bourne was a big man with a character big enough to include an enormous range of interests. He had a great capacity to listen and an insatiable enthusiasm to learn. His meeting at Brighton in 1963 was one of the happiest that the British Society had known and the annual dinner at the Royal Pavilion was a most memorable occasion. All those who were fortunate enough to meet him soon came to regard him as an old friend. His warm and simple friendliness made him universally popular and his confident courage in difficult times was superb. Bourne was interested in sailing, sketching, photography, and as a student was a keen player of rugby football and cricket. He liked antiques and was a skilful writer of non-medical verse. He died at the age of 75 and had two sons and two daughters.

T. C. H.

Academic appointment

On 1 April 1976 Dr R. Hermon Dowling became the first Professor of Gastroenterology in the University of London. He has been given a personal chair in the Gastroenterology Unit, Department of Medicine, Guy's Hospital Medical School. This news will give great pleasure in the gastroenterology world both in Great Britain and overseas.

Gastric inhibition

Professor Johannes Myren organised a symposium on this topical subject in Oslo on 6 and 7 February 1976, sponsored by Dumex. It was attended by 80 invited gastroenterologists from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland, and seven non-Scandinavians.

After an introductory admonition by Professor K. J. Obrink (Uppsala) of gastroenterologists for their loose and non-mathematical treatment of inhibition, Dr J. H. Baron (London) chaired a session on hormonal inhibition and reviewed the scanty evidence for intestinal hormones physiologically inhibiting gastric secretion. Separate papers described inhibition of gastric secretion and gastrin by acid, fat, secretin, glucagon, CCK, somatostatin, calcitonin, and bulbogastrone.

After a review lecture on regulation of gastric mucus by Monique Vagne (Lyons), Professor H. L. Duthie (Sheffield) chaired the session on nervous inhibition, and reviewed the effects of vagotomy on gastric acid and myoelectrical activity. Separate papers then discussed the effects of various vagotomies on gastric motility, acid and gastrin.

Professor S. J. Konturek (Cracow) and Dr W. Domschke (Erlangen) were chairmen of the final clinical and therapeutic sessions in which there were papers on medical treatment by antacids, antipepsins, cimetidine, trimipramine, proglumide, phthalapromine, secretin depot, and surgical treatment by proximal gastric vagotomy.

The scientific and social success of the meeting owed much to its beautiful and isolated setting in the Dansk-Norsk-Samarbeid in the mountains in Lysebu near Oslo. The symposium will be published as a Supplement to *Scandinavian Journal of Gastroenterology* (1976).

J.H.B. and H.L.D.

British Council Course: Gastrointestinal endoscopy

A residential course on gastrointestinal endoscopy, for overseas applicants only, will be held at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, 31 October — 6 November 1976. The course is intended for experienced gastroenterologists and physicians with a special interest in gastroenterology. It is also open to senior medical practitioners who wish to become further acquainted with recent advances in this field. The fee is £212 and applicants should apply to The Director, Courses Department, The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA, by 1 July 1976.

Western General Hospital courses

Held under auspices of Edinburgh Post-Graduate Board for Medicine, for consultants and senior members of junior staff: 7 May 1976: 'Up-dating alimentary endoscopy'. 25 June 1976: 'Revisional procedures after peptic ulcer surgery'. Applications to Postgraduate Dean, Pfizer Foundation, Hill Square, Edinburgh EH8 9DR.

Union of the Societies of Medical Sciences S. R. Romania: Society of Gastroenterology Third National Congress of Gastroenterology, 29 September—1 October 1976, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Details from Congress Secretariat, IIIrd Medical Clinic, str. Iaşilor nr. 16, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

American Association For Study Of Liver Disease

Postgraduate symposium: 'Viral hepatitis', 3-4 November 1976, Chicago, Illinois. Details from AASLD Postgraduate Symposium On Viral Hepatitis, c/o Charles B. Slack, Inc., 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Yale School of Medicine Postgraduate Symposium

'Portal systemic encephalopathy in hepatic coma: pathogenesis, assessment, and new forms of therapy', 11-13 November 1976. Details from Dr. Harold O. Conn, Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, 333 Cedar Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, U.S.A.

Notes on books

The medical management of the surgical patient by F. G. Smiddy. (Pp. viii + 280; £9.50.) Edward Arnold: Maidenhead. 1976. Physicians with a special interest in gastroenterology have much to offer in the joint care of patients with their surgical colleagues in 'making the patient safe for surgery'. Although written primarily for surgeons, there is a great deal in it of practical value for the physicians who are so often drawn into the difficult problems of preoperative assessment of postoperative care.

Drugs and disease Edited by Sheila Worledge (Pp. 124, illus. £3). Royal College of Pathologists: London, 1976. This reports a symposium held in London in February 1975. There is a section on drugs and the liver. Other systems are covered and there are important contributions on mechanisms of drug action and general reviews on the drug dilemma—benefits and hazards.

Worms and disease—a manual of medical helminthology By Ralph Muller (Pp. 161; illus. £8). Heinemann: London, 1976. This authoritative handbook is intended primarily for students taking degrees or diplomas in parasitology, tropical public health, or clinical medicine of the tropics, and for pathologists and technologists working in tropical countries. It is based on the courses in medical helminthology given to postgraduate students at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. At the same time it is also an up-to-date reference source which will be of value to physicians and technologists in the more developed countries, where parasitic diseases are of increasing importance.

Colo-rectal cancer. A series of workshops on the Biology of Human Cancer Report No. 2. Edited by J. H. Weisburger, Bandaru S. Reddy, and David L. Jofte. (Pp. 143). International Union Against Cancer (UICC): Geneva, 1975. This report reviews the current status of factors bearing on cancer of the large bowel. Particular emphasis is given to the aetiology and pathogenesis of the disease, to animal models, to the early diagnosis and immunology and, finally, to therapy, including immunological approaches thereto. This is one of a series of workshops on the biology of human cancer.

Nutrition: an integrated approach. 2nd edition. By Ruth Pike and Myrtle L. Brown (Pp. 1082; illustrated: £11.85; \$23.70). John Wiley: Chichester, 1975. This is the second edition of a most comprehensive book covering the digestion and absorption of nutrients. Special emphasis has been given to cellular structure and biochemical function.

Total parenteral nutrition: Premises and promises. Edited by H. Ghadimi. (Pp. 632; illustrated; £15.10; \$30.20). Wiley, Chichester, 1975. This volume of 31 chapters written by experts from many countries covers the background physiology and biochemistry in relation to parenteral nutrition both in children and in adults. For all actively concerned with nutritional research problems and with clinical use of parenteral fluids this publication will provide an important source for reference, and practical information.

The mammalian alimentary system. A functional approach. By David S. Madge. (Pp. 195; illustrated: £8.00). Arnold, London, 1975. Special topics in biology. This is written for undergraduates but is sufficiently detailed and informative for postgraduate students in gastroenterology. It is particularly well illustrated with line diagrams.

Received

Beecham Foods Nutrition Information Centre Bulletin No. 116 Sweetness and sweeteners 1. Natural sugars, and Bulletin No. 118 Sweetness and sweeteners 3. Non-calorie sweeteners. Nutrition Information Centre, Beecham Foods, 11 Stoke Poges Lane, Slough, Berks. 1976.

International Conference on Amebiasis: Programme and abstracts. Ciudad de México 27.8 y 29 de octubre 1975. By Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social Secretaria *et al.*

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