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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.

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

**ILLUSTRATIONS** Only essential Figures and Tables should be included. *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. Magnification scales, if necessary, should be lettered on these. Where possible, prints should be trimmed to column width (i.e. 2½ in). *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 *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 measurements except blood pressure should be expressed in SI units (see *Journal of Clinical Pathology* (1974), 27, 590-597; *British Medical Journal* (1974), 4, 490), followed by traditional units in parentheses. Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.

**REFERENCES** In the text these should follow the Harvard system—that is, name followed by date; James and Smith (1970). If there are more than two authors they should be cited as James *et al.* (1970) even the first time that they appear. The list of references should be typed in double spacing and in alphabetical order on a separate sheet. Such references should give the author's name, followed by initials and year of publication in brackets, *the title of the article quoted*, the name (in full) of the journal in which the article appeared, the volume number in Arabic numerals, followed by numbers of first and last pages of article.

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ISSN 0017-5749

necropsies found by Eriksson *et al.* (1975) and with the frequency (3.23%) of  $Pi^Z$  allele found on serum phenotyping of about 10 000 samples in England (Cook, 1974), and chi-square tests showed no significant differences. This study therefore suggests that most persons with  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin bodies in the liver have a  $Pi^Z$  phenotype.

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- Blenkinsopp, W. K., and Haffenden, G. P. (1977). Alpha-1-antitrypsin bodies in the liver. *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, **30**, 132-137.
- Bradfield, J. W. B., and Blenkinsopp, W. K. (1977). Alpha-1-antitrypsin globules in the liver and  $PiM$  phenotype. *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, **30**, 464-466.
- Cook, P. J. L. (1974). Genetic aspects of the  $Pi$  system. *Postgraduate Medical Journal*, **50**, 362-364.
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## The January 1978 Issue

### THE JANUARY 1978 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Comparison of 'early gastric cancer' in Britain and Japan D. M. D. EVANS, J. L. CRAVEN, F. MURPHY, AND B. K. CLEARY

Effect of glucocorticoids on gastrin secretion in man S. SEINO, Y. SEINO, S. MATSUKURA, H. KURAHACHI, M. IKEDA, M. YAWATA, AND H. IMURA

Effect of secretagogues on mucosal blood flow in the antrum and corpus of the stomach T. V. TAYLOR, B. R. PULLAN, J. GODDARD, AND B. TORRANCE

Clinical presentation of patients with 'Dyspepsia' JANE C. HORROCKS AND F. T. DE DOMBAL

Inhibitory effect of cimetidine on gastric acid secretion vagally activated by physiological means in duodenal ulcer patients I. M. SCHÖÖN AND L. OLBE

Physiological factors influencing serum bile acid levels M. PONZ DE LEON, G. M. MURPHY, AND R. HERMON DOWLING

Assessment of the ( $^{14}C$ ) aminopyrine breath test in liver disease J. GALIZZI, R. G. LONG, BARBARA H. BILLING, AND SHEILA SHERLOCK

Jejunal monosaccharide, water, and electrolyte transport in patients with chronic pancreatitis C. A. HELMAN, G. O. BARBEZAT, AND S. BANK

Hyposplenism in inflammatory bowel disease F. P. RYAN, R. C. SMART, C. D. HOLDSWORTH, AND F. E. PRESTON

Relationship between splenic size and splenic function R. C. SMART, F. P. RYAN, C. D. HOLDSWORTH, AND F. E. PRESTON

Effect of bran particle size on stool weight A. J. M. BRODRIBB AND CHRIS GROVES

Sensibility of the rectum to distension and the anorectal distension reflex in ulcerative colitis M. J. G. FARTHING AND J. E. LENNARD-JONES

Progress report Portal circulation and portal hypertension SHEILA SHERLOCK

Notes and activities

Books

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON WC1H 9JR, price £2.75, including postage

## Notes and activities

### BSDE Spring Meeting: Change of Plan

The Spring Meeting of the British Society for Digestive Endoscopy will not now be held at the Royal Free Hospital, London, on 20 and 21 April as previously announced but at the University of Bristol on 13 and 14 April with Dr Paul Brown as local secretary.

## Books

**Worms and Disease** By Ralph Muller. (Pp. 161; illustrated. £8.00.) Heinemann Medical Books: London. 1975.

Although this concise and well-illustrated book is primarily intended as a practical guide for physicians and medical zoologists working in the tropics, it is also a valuable work of reference for surgeons, gastroenterologists, and pathologists who work in temperate climates. Because of increasing movement of persons from tropical to temperate zones, we in Britain are more likely to come across cases of helminth infections. In this book the nomenclature, epidemiology, morphology, life cycle, clinical manifestations, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of those worms pathogenic to man are documented without going into too much detail. For further reading a useful bibliography is given at the end of each type of infestation. This book is unreservedly recommended for libraries of gastrointestinal units and postgraduate medical centres.

B. C. MORSON

**Gastroenterology Vol. 4 Peritoneum, Parasitic Diseases and System Interrelationships** Edited by H. L. Bockus. (Pp. 794; illustrated. £28.50.) Saunders: Philadelphia.

'Bockus' needs no introduction to gastroenterologists and many will welcome a new third edition of this classic textbook, which now comes in sections, in order to keep the volumes down to reasonable size. Volume four now completes the series, and deals with diseases of the peritoneum, mesentery and omentum, with parasitic diseases and with the relationship of alimentary disorders to other systems. The last 300 pages (almost half the book) are devoted to a 'Relevant Miscellany'. Some of the chapters in this section deal with other diseases (such as diabetes, collagenoses, and the like) and alimentary disorders, while others are devoted to a

variety of topics, including a chapter on computer-assisted tomography of the abdomen.

This volume maintains the established high reputation of the textbook which, under Dr H. L. Bockus's editorship, has been accepted as one of the standard reference texts in gastroenterology. The book is beautifully produced and the standard of reproduced radiographs and other illustrations is high.

As always with books written by many authors and covering a wide variety of topics, one can pick on points of detail or emphasis with which one disagrees, but this would be carping. One hopes that the book will be widely available in medical libraries and on bookshelves of as many gastroenterologists as can afford it.

J. J. MISIEWICZ

**Albumin Structure, Function and Uses** Edited by V. M. Rosenoer, M. Oratz, and M. A. Rothschild. (Pp. 397; illustrated. £25.00.) Pergamon: Oxford.

The aim of this book, as the authors state, is to bring together in a single volume all the information that is known about albumin. Initially, this book is rather daunting to the clinician in that the early chapters are related to the chemistry and structure of albumin. However, as one reads on and understands more, so a knowledge of the structure and function of albumin gradually builds up and this leads nicely into the final chapters on the more clinical aspects of albumin metabolism.

The chapter on albumin purification describes the methods of separation and the problems of denaturation. Amino acid sequencing in the structure of albumin is dealt with in some detail and subsequently we learn about the heterogeneity of albumin structure. This heterogeneity leads to different binding and transport characteristics. The chapter on albumin phylogenetics is a fascinating chapter on evolution and in the chapter on the genetics of human serum albumin we learn that there are two dozen different albumin variants. The various albumin binding sites and the physicochemical properties of binding to albumin are described and, becoming more clinical, we learn about drug albumin interaction. This basic understanding of albumin leads to chapters on albumin synthesis and catabolism, this being of particular interest to gastroenterologists and hepatologists. The work on albumin turnover in liver disease is

described fully and this book will provide a ready reference for people interested in the kinetics of albumin turnover in these diseases. The book is well written with good editorial discipline, and the references are excellent.

This book can be recommended for academic departments of medicine and gastroenterology. It will not, unfortunately, be read by the every-day clinician.

M. L. CLARK

**Endoscopic Retrograde Pancreaticocholangiography (ERCP)** By H. Anacker, H. D. Weiss, and B. Kramann. (Pp. 123; illustrated; DM67; US\$29.50.) Springer: Berlin, Heidelberg, New York. 1977.

The cover of this book states that it is the first monograph on ERCP (ERCP). It is indeed the first in the English language, but two of the Japanese pioneers (Oi and Ogoshi) have previously written at greater length. Anacker and his colleagues have a long experience of pancreatography in all its forms, and are able to discuss its history and development with authority. The endoscopic technique is described and emphasis is placed on the results of retrograde cholangiography and pancreatography and their correlation with alternative techniques. It is perhaps unfortunate that the book predates the most recent developments in pancreatic imaging by ultrasonography and computed tomography. The many radiographic illustrations are of high quality. Some of the few colour pictures are printed upside down.

There appears to be some lack of balance in covering the developments in ERCP. Transendoscopic biliary and pancreatic duct manometry is discussed at length. Pure juice cytology merits only a few lines, and there is no mention whatsoever of endoscopic diathermy sphincterotomy or the collection of pure bile and pancreatic juice for diagnostic and research biochemical studies. Despite these criticisms, the book provides a good basic background to diagnostic ERCP; it is well produced with a basic index and extensive bibliography, which is especially helpful since it includes much of the German literature not normally quoted in English language publications.

P. COTTON

**Malabsorption in Coeliac Sprue** By O. J. Cluysenaer and J. H. M. van Tongeren. (Pp. 294; illustrated; DPI 75.) Martinus

## **WORKSHOP ON 'GASTRINS AND VAGUS'**

In conjunction with the 2nd International Symposium on Gastrointestinal Hormones in Norway (30th August-2nd September, 1978) a workshop on 'gastrins and the vagus' will be held in **Aarhus, Denmark, 25th-27th August, 1978**. The workshop is held on occasion of the 50th anniversary of the University of Aarhus, organized by Erik Amdrup and Jens F. Rehfeld, University of Aarhus.

The workshop will focus on recent developments in cytochemistry, biochemistry, and physiology of gastrins, cholecystokinins and the vagus with reference to the pathophysiology and therapy of the duodenal ulcer disease. Particular emphasis will be put on the nature of gastrins and cholecystokinins in neurones. The following have agreed to introduce or chair the topics: W. Creutzfeldt, G. J. Dockray, J. Fahrenkrug, I. E. Gillespie, R. A. Gregory, M. I. Grossman, L. R. Johnson, D. Johnston, L. I. Larsson, V. Mutt, L. Olbe, A. G. E. Pearse, D. Sanders, T. W. Schwartz, E. Solcia, A. Soll, F. Stadil, J. C. Thompson, B. Uvnäs, K. Unväs-Wallensten, J. H. Walsh, K. J. Öbrink. Most time of the workshop is planned for discussion. All introductions and discussions will be published shortly after the workshop.

The workshop and lodging will take place at the conference center 'Scanticon', Aarhus, Denmark. Participation fee including lodging and meals 24th-27th August, 1978, is US\$ 200 (double-room) of \$240 (single-room). The number of participants will be limited below 100. **Dead-line for application, 1st April, 1978.**

For further information, write to the organizers, c/o Professor E. Amdrup, Dept. of Surgery (L), Kommunehospitalet, DK-8000 Aarhus C., Denmark.

## **FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INTESTINAL MICROECOLOGY**

On May 31 and June 1, 1978 the University of Missouri-Columbia will present a symposium with invited speakers and selected poster papers on four topics:

### **ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS MICROBES WITH MUCOSAL CELLS METABOLIC ACTIVITIES OF INTESTINAL MICROBES MICROBIC ENTEROTOXINS THE INTESTINAL FLORA IN DISEASE**

This continuing medical education offering meets the criteria for Category I credit for the Physician's Recognition Award.

The registration fee includes a copy of the published papers.

Submission of poster titles and abstracts must be received by Dr. David J. Hentges, Chairman, Department of Microbiology, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Missouri 65201, no later than March 15, 1978.

For further information contact Professor Don Luckey, Department of Biochemistry, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Missouri 65201.