

Postgraduate Medical Journal

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The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine was founded by a group of London consultants after the First World War to assist postgraduates, particularly those coming to London from the Commonwealth, to pursue their studies. The Fellowship first published the *Postgraduate Medical Journal* to give information about lectures, conferences and courses and to provide a monthly review of all branches of medicine.

Postgraduate Medical Journal publishes original papers on subjects of current clinical importance and welcomes review articles with extensive, up-to-date bibliographies as guides to further reading. Several symposia are published every year, each devoted to a single subject and written, by invitation, by specialists in different disciplines. Most issues include authoritative Current Surveys of clinical problems, as well as well documented Reports of cases of particular interest, Correspondence and Book Reviews.

A 'Notice to Contributors' is published on the inside back cover of this issue. The Editor reserves the right to make changes which may clarify or condense papers where this is considered desirable.

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Books received

Psychogeriatrics. An introduction to the psychiatry of old age. By BRICE PITT. Pp. vii + 183, soft cover. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. £2.25.

Abdominal Echography. Ultrasound in the diagnosis of abdominal conditions. By ELLIS BARNETT and PATRICIA MORLEY. Pp. x + 138, illustrated, soft cover. London: Butterworth's. £4.50.

Guide to Psychiatry. By MYRE SIM. Third edition, pp. xi + 1223, hard cover. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. £6.00.

The Epilepsies. Modern diagnosis and treatment. By J. M. SUTHERLAND, H. TAIT and M. J. EADIE. Second edition, 149 pp., soft cover. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. £2.50.

Book review

Larrey: Surgeon to Napoleon's Imperial Guard

By ROBERT G. RICHARDSON. Pp. viii + 266, illustrated. London: John Murray, 1974. £4.50.

The author is to be congratulated for finding as his subject a man of whom it has been said that he holds a place in history as the greatest, the bravest, the most dedicated and the most indefatigable surgeon who ever existed and, certainly for his time, the most brilliant and by far the most advanced in theory and practice. And what a practice, when one considers that he was present at virtually every single battle under Napoleon's personal command, from the first Italian Campaign to Waterloo. He was indeed present at many more battles than any of the twenty-six Marshals of France. Larrey can also rightfully be said to have awakened the conscience of mankind to the inhumanity of war. Before him, casualties had simply been a nuisance on the battlefield. As early as the battle of Valmy in 1792 (his first campaign), inspired by watching the flying Horse Artillery going into action, he invented the flying ambulance which he frequently took

into the thick of the fighting, often amputating, and dressing wounds under fire, ignoring rank and treating the severely wounded first, whether friend or foe.

Dr Richardson's portrait is based largely on Larrey's own letters, journals and notes, including the unpublished collection in the Wellcome Institute. The biography is by a doctor about a surgeon (who, as the book reveals, was also a great physician). It is, therefore, based on medical sources and the theme is essentially medical throughout. But the author must be additionally complimented for his skilful weaving of the medical with the military, political and human aspects of that fabulous and terrible drama known as the Napoleonic Wars. As indicated above, the author deserves the highest praise for a well compiled and beautifully written story to which are added maps and many interesting illustrations. It is likely to appeal equally to doctors, soldiers, historians or any serious reader, who will find that this is the kind of book which it is desperately difficult to close before the last page has been read.

Erratum

Postgraduate Medical Journal, August 1974. The authors of the article 'The use of dialysis bath fluid as a vehicle for a drug with a narrow therapeutic index—lithium chloride' should have been given as H. F. Oakeley, M.B., M.R.C.P.,

M.R.C.Psych., W. F. Clarke, M.D. and V. Parsons, D.M., F.R.C.P. and not W. F. Oakley, etc. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Postgraduate Medical Journal: Notice to Contributors

Typescripts (two complete copies) should be sent to the Editor, Dr I. Gilliland, Postgraduate Medical Journal, Chandos House, 2 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 9LE. Papers should be typewritten on one side of the paper only, with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch margin, and the lines should be double-spaced. In addition to the title of the paper there should be a 'running title' (for page headings) of not more than 45 letters (including spaces). The paper should bear the name of the author(s) with their degrees and descriptions and of the laboratory or research institute where the work has been carried out. The full postal address of the principal author should be given as a footnote. (The proofs will be sent to this author and address unless otherwise indicated.)

Arrangement. Papers should normally be divided into: (a) **Summary**, brief, self-contained and embodying the main conclusions; (b) **Introduction**; (c) **Materials and methods**; (d) **Results**, as concise as possible (both tables and figures illustrating the same data will rarely be permitted); (e) **Discussion and conclusion**; (f) **Acknowledgments**; (g) **References**.

References. Only papers closely related to the author's work should be included, exhaustive lists should be avoided. **References should be made by giving the author's surname, with the year of publication in parentheses.** When reference is made to a work by three authors all names should be given when cited for the first time, and thereafter only the first name, adding *et al.*, e.g. Smith *et al.* (1958). The '*et al.*' form should always be used for works by four or more authors. If several papers by the same author and from the same year are cited, a, b, c, etc., should be put after the year of publication, e.g. Smith *et al.* (1958a). All references should be brought together at the end of the paper in **alphabetical** order. References to articles and papers should mention (a) **name(s) of the author(s)**; (b) **year of publication in parentheses**; (c)* **title of paper**; (d) **title of journal in full, underlined**; (e) **volume number**; **number of first page of article**. References to books and monographs should include (a) **name(s) and initials of author(s) or editor(s)**; **year of publication in parentheses**; (b) **title, underlined**; (c) **edition**; (d) **page referred to**; (e) **publisher**; (f) **place**.

Standard usage. The *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* is used as a reference for all spelling and hyphenation. Verbs which contain the suffix *ize* (*ise*) and their derivatives should be spelt with the *z*. Statistics and measurements should always be given in figures, i.e. 10 min, 20 hr, 5 ml, except where the number begins the sentence. When the number does *not*

refer to a unit of measurement, it is spelt out except where the number is greater than one hundred.

Abbreviations. Abbreviations for some of the commoner units are given below. **The abbreviation for the plural of a unit is the same as that for the singular unless confusion is likely to arise.**

gram(s)	g	second(s)	sec
kilogram(s)	kg	cubic millimetre(s)	mm ³
milligram(s)		millimetre(s)	mm
(10 ⁻³ g)	mg	centimetre(s)	cm
microgram(s)		millicurie(s)	mCi
(10 ⁻⁶ g)	μg	millilitre(s)	ml
nanogram(s)		pound(s)	lb
(10 ⁻⁹ g)	ng	milliequivalent	mEq
picogram(s)			
(10 ⁻¹² g)	pg	R _F values	R _F
hour(s)	hr		
minute(s)	min	gravitational acceleration	g
micron(s)	μ	percent	%

Example: mg/100 ml, for biochemical values; mEq/l

Figures. In the text these should be given Arabic numbers, e.g. Fig. 3. They should be marked on the backs with the name(s) of the author(s) and the title of the paper. Where there is any possible doubt as to the orientation of a figure the top should be marked with an arrow. Each figure must bear a reference corresponding to a similar number in the text. Photographs and photomicrographs should be unmounted glossy prints and should not be retouched. Line diagrams should be on separate sheets; they should be drawn with black Indian ink on white paper and should be about four times the area of the final reproduction. Lines and lettering should be of sufficient thickness and size to stand reduction to one-half or one-third. Letters and numbers must be written lightly in pencil. Whenever possible, the originals of line diagrams, prepared as described above, should be submitted and not photographs. The legends of all the figures should be typed together on a single sheet of paper headed 'Legends to Figures'.

Tables. There should be as few tables as possible and these should include only essential data; the data should not be crowded together. The main heading should be in capitals with an Arabic number, e.g. TABLE 2. Each table must have a caption in small letters. Vertical lines should not be used.

Page proofs will be submitted to the contributors for minor corrections and should be returned to the Editor within 3 days. **Major alterations to the text cannot be accepted.**

Offprints. These may be purchased if ordered on the form which will be sent to the senior author with the proofs.

* Titles of papers should be cited in their original form.