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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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Recent advances in reproductive medicine

A Symposium held at the Avery-Jones Postgraduate Medical Centre,
Central Middlesex Hospital, London, on Friday, 22nd March, 1974.

Edited by DR H. S. JACOBS

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Books received

- Intravenous Anaesthesia.* By JOHN W. DUNDEE and GORDON M. WYANT. Pp. x+341, illustrated, hard cover. Edinburgh and London: Churchill Livingstone, 1974. £9.50.
- Handy Matrices of Unit Conversion Factors for Biology and Mechanics.* By C. J. PENNYCUICK. Pp. 47, soft cover. London: Edward Arnold, 1974. 95p.
- Just an Ordinary Patient—A Preliminary Survey of Opinions on Psychiatric Units in General Hospitals.* By WINIFRED RAPHAEL. Pp. 48, soft cover. King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, 1974. £1.30.
- A Guide to Disaster Management.* Ed. by W. SILLAR. Pp. 115, illustrated, cyclostyled, soft cover. Glasgow: Action for Disaster, 1974. £2.00 post free.

Diseases of the Ear. Ed. by STUART R. MAWSON. Third edition. Pp. viii+584, illustrated, hard cover. London: Edward Arnold Ltd, 1974. £18.50.

Anatomy and Physiology for Nurses (Gowland and Cairney's). Ed. and revised by W. E. ADAMS and D. W. TAYLOR. Eighth edition. Pp. 528, illustrated, hard cover. Christchurch, New Zealand: N. M. Peryer Limited, 1974. N.Z. \$8.50.

A Colour Atlas of Microbiology. By R. J. OLDS. Pp. 288, church, New Zealand: N. M. Peryer Limited, 1974. N.Z. \$8.50.

Book reviews

Drug Treatment in Psychiatry—Social and Psychological Aspects of Medical Practice

By TREVOR SILVERSTONE and PAUL TURNER. Pp. vii+223. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. Cloth, £4.00; paperback, £2.25.

The authors, a psychiatrist and a pharmacologist respectively, have combined here to produce a comprehensive and useful text book of psychopharmacology which will be of particular value to medical students and to medical and paramedical postgraduates. It is essentially a clinically orientated book with some presentation of physiological and pharmacological information as a prelude to each chapter in its rump. These successive chapters are separately devoted to one or other of the psychiatric syndromes and otherwise to more general disturbances such as those of sleep, appetite, sexual behaviour and pain. The whole is preceded by a general introduction to pharmacology, methods of evaluation of drug therapy and drug abuse. This is a competently produced book that fills a gap and which can be recommended.

Guide to Psychiatry

By DR MYRE SIM. Third edition. Pp. xi+1223, hard cover. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. £6.00.

The third edition of this well known text book is larger than its predecessors. It contains a new chapter on legal aspects of psychiatry in the U.S.A. The earlier editions were welcome since they conveyed a refreshing view of psychiatry which was also scholarly and comprehensive. This present volume begins to reveal the problems facing an author in the ambitious single handed attempt to embrace a field so huge as psychiatry with all its ramifications including for instance such matters as psychotherapy and psychosomatics. The contents of several chapters fall dangerously in between the areas of clinical know-how and academic erudition and do justice to neither. Highly selected and occasionally out-dated references to the literature are sometimes used as a basis for emphatic statements on the subject whilst more recent knowledge is neglected. Since the author is well known for certain robust but idiosyncratic views this may be deliberate policy on his part. Meanwhile the reviewer suggests that this latest volume, whilst still deserving a place on the shelves of medical school libraries and postgraduate institutions, should be read warily, and with guidance to those still in training.

Lectures on the Methodology of Clinical Research

By MAX HAMILTON. Second edition. Pp. 197. Edinburgh and London: Churchill Livingstone, 1974. £5.00.

Clinical research experience is now almost a *sine qua non* for progress in a medical career, not only in hospital practice but now even in some areas of community medicine and primary medical care. This little book is a guide to the general principles of designing, prosecuting and analysing the results of clinical investigations, and is aimed at medical postgraduates of all specialties. It is full of good common sense, with its feet four square on clinical ground. For example, as a typical piece of advice all too often forgotten, 'Clinical experiments cannot be designed by experts on experimental design but only by clinicians'.

As might be expected in a book by Professor Hamilton, most working examples of the principles outlined are in the psychiatric field. It is, of course, in this area of medical research that most difficulty is experienced in reaching definite conclusions, and it is a pity that problems, such as the use of placebo trials in the assessment of psychotropic drugs and the statistical analysis of the results of rating scales (such as his own), are dealt with in a rather woolly and inconclusive way in an otherwise clear and dogmatic presentation. While Professor Hamilton presents many forms of statistical analysis in a logical concise manner, it is unlikely that this book could be considered a satisfactory substitute for a text-book of medical statistics, of which there are now several available, and which should be read in conjunction with it. Apart from a few minor typographical errors, this is an attractive book, well worth reading by any aspiring clinical researcher who finds himself 'pushed in at the deep end'.

Physiological Basis of Starling's Law of the Heart

Ciba Foundation Symposium 21, Excerpta Medica, 1974. U.S. \$15.40, D.Fl. 40.00.

If cardiac muscle is stretched, it develops greater contractile tension upon excitation . . . This Law, as Starling stated it in 1914, is well known to all medical students and practising physicians alike. Thus, cardiac muscle is similar to skeletal muscle in that the mechanical energy set free on passage from the resting to the contractile state depends on the length of the muscle fibres.

This elegant Ciba Symposium brings together some of the

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.