

A variety of modifications of preparing the tissue can be used. A small piece of fresh gut can be frozen directly on to the liver and sections cut immediately.

Alternatively, it is possible to stretch a length of bowel by pinning out on to cork or spreading out on thin card. The tissue is then quenched by plunging into liquid nitrogen. The whole specimen can then be stored in a polythene container in a deep freeze.

When serial sections are required, a small piece of flattened tissue is attached to the prepared 'liver' chuck as described. Sections obtained by this second technique are often not as good as those by the first method.

Leaming and Cauna (1961) used fixed tissue in their work on cats' intestines. They fixed the gut for three to six hours in 10% neutral formalin and this was followed by cutting frozen sections. We have not found this method as convenient or the sections obtained as good as when fresh tissue was cut.

This tangential method obviously takes longer to carry out than a longitudinal or transverse quick frozen section, but it gives a more definite answer

to the question as to whether or not the intramural plexus is normal or abnormal at a particular site of the large bowel or rectum.

Photographs were taken by Mr. H. Coussins. The work was carried out under a grant from the Endowment Fund of the United Sheffield Hospitals.

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Reports and Bulletins prepared by the Association of Clinical Biochemists

The following reports and bulletins are published by the Association of Clinical Biochemists. They may be obtained from Mr. J. T. Ireland, Biochemistry Laboratory, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, 12. The prices include postage, but airmail will be charged extra.

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

- 1 Colorimeters with Flow Through Cells. A Critical Assessment of 4 Instruments. 1965. P. M. G. BROUGHTON and C. RILEY. 13s. 6d.
- 2 Colorimeters: A critical assessment of 5 commercial instruments. 1966. P. M. G. BROUGHTON, C. RILEY, J. G. H. COOK, P. G. SANDERS, and H. BRAUNSBURG. 15s.
- 4 Control Solutions for Clinical Biochemistry. June 1965. P. M. G. BROUGHTON and A. H. GOWENLOCK. 1s. 6d.
- 5 Recording Spectrophotometers. A comparative list of low-priced instruments readily available in Britain. July 1965. P. SEWELL. 2s. 6d.
- 6 A Guide to Automatic Pipettes. A list of more than 100 instruments compiled from manufacturers' literature. August 1965. P. M. G. BROUGHTON. 5s.

TECHNICAL BULLETINS

- 2 A Report on the Enzyme Questionnaire Circulated by the Scientific Committee. December 1964. A. H. GOWENLOCK. 1s.
- 3 Non-recording Spectrophotometers for the Visible and Ultraviolet Ranges. A comparative table of instruments available in Great Britain. May 1965. A. H. GOWENLOCK, P. C. NICHOLAS, and J. H. WILKINSON. 1s. 6d.
- 7 Variability Between Auto-Analyser Modules. August 1965. B. E. NORTHAM. 1s. 6d.
- 8 Flame Photometers. A comparative list of 15 instruments readily available in Britain. June 1966. C. RILEY. 4s.
- 9 Determination of Urea by Auto-Analyser. November 1966. RUTH M. HASLAM. 2s. 6d.
- 10 Filter Fluorimeters. A comparative list of 14 instruments. March 1967. HANNELORE BRAUNSBURG. 5s.

tissues obtained from women with recurrent abortions, but also made isolations from brain tissue, abrasion material, lochia, foetal fluid, milk, and menstrual blood. His highest isolation rate, 11 from 28 attempts, was from brain tissue but unfortunately this material has so far not been available to us.

The isolation of toxoplasma from 12% of all specimens examined is sufficiently encouraging to suggest that more vigorous attempts be made in future.

Our thanks are due to the many pathologists in Wales and the south of England who sent material for isolation. Thanks are especially due to Dr. I. Pugh, Medical

Superintendent of the Hill House Isolation Hospital, for sending the material from cases of recurrent abortion.

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The March 1967 Issue

Broadsheets and symposia

Peripatetic patients and pathologists AIR VICE-MARSHAL W. P. STAMM

Histological features of the nephrotic syndrome associated with quartan malaria J. W. KIBUKAMUSOKE and M. S. R. HUTT

Chromoblastomycosis (possibly *Cladosporium*) of the breast in an English woman L. HENRY and A. P. ROSS

Basaloid carcinoma of the anal canal LILLIAN S. C. PANG and B. C. MORSON

Adenocarcinoma of the pyloric antrum with extensive squamous differentiation K. J. DONALD

Fibrous bands in conducting pulmonary arteries M. TESSA MORRELL, and M. S. DUNNILL

A critical and comparative study of methods of isolating tumour cells from the blood J. A. FLEMING and J. W. STEWART

Hypofibrinogenaemia in metastatic carcinoma of the prostate: suppression of systemic fibrinolysis by heparin P. W. STRAUB, G. RIEDLER, and P. G. FRICK

Benign familial polycythaemia C. G. GEARY, H. E. AMOS, and J. E. MACIVER

Autoantibodies reacting with heart muscle tissue in coronary heart disease I. STRAUZ and GY. DÓBIÁS

Screening lead workers for the presence of stippled erythrocytes R. L. CLARK, J. H. JONES, and J. F. JONES

Use of Sephadex column chromatography in the assessment of thyroid status T. M. D. GIMLETTE

Comparison of three simple methods for the assessment of 'free' thyroid hormone T. M. D. GIMLETTE

Diagnostic value of liver function tests and *Entamoeba histolytica* antibody studies in East Africans D. P. MULLAN, A. M. WARD, S. SHAH, and A. L. JEANES

Regulations of intestinal alkaline phosphatase levels in the rat W. C. WATSON, ELSPETH S. MURRAY, and MARY D. GARDNER

Biological findings in Von Willebrand's pedigrees: implications for inheritance DOMINIQUE MEYER, MARIE-JOSÉ LARRIEU, PIERRE MAROTEAUX, and JACQUES P. CAEN

Wound infections acquired from a disperser of an unusual strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* G. A. J. AYLIFFE and B. J. COLLINS

Diagnosis and treatment of infection with *Brucella abortus* biotype 5 L. ROBERTSON

A system of screening for the presence of a number of common drugs MERLE DUNLOP and D. H. CURNOW

Technical methods

Multichannel system for the automatic recording of clot lysis J. D. CASH and E. LEASK

Determination of methaemalbumin in plasma G. C. CHONG and J. A. OWEN

Rapid method for the preparation of replicate microslide tissue cultures to facilitate immunofluorescent identification of unknown virus isolates R. G. SOMMERVILLE

Improved optical equipment for immunofluorescence studies O. M. LIDWEELE, C. E. D. TAYLOR, S. P. CLARK, and G. V. HEIMER

Use of barium sulphate as a continuous market for faeces MATTHEW DICK

Letters to the Editor

Book reviews

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W. C. 1, price 18s. 6d.

HISTOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE NEPHROTIC SYNDROME
ASSOCIATED WITH QUARTAN MALARIA

Sir,

Since this article was submitted, an excellent account of nephropathies in West Africa has been published. The histological features of the nephrotic syndrome in children in Ibadan associated with *P. malariae* infection are similar to those described in our article.

Editors: Edington, G. M., and Mainwaring, A. R., 'Nephropathies in West Africa'. The Kidney. International Academy of Pathology Monograph No. 6, Baltimore, U.S.A. The Williams and Wilkins Company, 1966, 488-501.

J. W. KIBUKAMUSOKA
M. S. R. HUTT
Kampala, Uganda

RECOGNITION OF TRAINING LABORATORIES

The College of Pathologists is at present preparing lists of laboratories recognized as suitable for the training of pathologists. This is preparatory to the introduction of regulations requiring entrants to the College Examinations to have held appointments in such recognized laboratories. Applications to be considered for recognition should be submitted on forms obtainable from the Registrar at the College of Pathologists, 16 Park Crescent, W.1.

T. CRAWFORD
Registrar

POPULATION SCREENING FOR CERVICAL CANCER

At the Council Meeting of the Association of Clinical Pathologists on 25 January there was a wide-ranging discussion covering the field of exfoliative cytology, especially in relation to population screening for cervical cancer, and the following resolutions were approved:—

1 To support the formation of a joint committee with the College of Pathologists and the British Society for Clinical Cytology, to be concerned with cytology in general, the training of workers in the field, and the problems of nomenclature.

2 The Technical Methods Committee of the Association of Clinical Pathologists is considering the publication of a series of broadsheets dealing with exfoliative cytology, to be prepared jointly by the Association and the British Society for Clinical Cytology.

Book reviews

PRIMARY HYPERPARATHYROIDISM: A CRITICAL REVIEW By L. N. Pyrah, A. Hodgkinson, and C. K. Anderson. (Pp. 72; 43 figures, 17s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright, 1966. This is specially reprinted from *The British Journal of Surgery*, April 1966. The subject is reviewed in detail and readably in 65 pages, illustrated with numerous reproductions of radiographs, photomicrographs, and a few coloured pictures. There are over 450 references. The aspects covered include pathology, and clinical picture, biochemical diagnosis, differential diagnosis, and treatment. The authors draw on their own experience of 68 cases of hyperparathyroidism and on hundreds more in the literature. It is made clear that the biochemist and morbid anatomist form an essential team with the surgeon in the diagnosis and treatment of the condition. This book is not only a guide to the pathologist as well as to the surgeon, physician, and radiologist: it presents a stimulating account of how the alert clinician is nowadays able to recognize early and minor stages of hyperparathyroidism and by successful surgery prevent the crippling effects of severe and advanced disease. The account of biochemical diagnosis and differential diagnosis is extra detailed and pays much attention to the numerous pitfalls. The contents include discussions of newer topics such as multiple endocrine adenomatosis, parathormone-like activity of occasional cancers of other organs. The book is highly recommended. It is informative, covers a lot in a short space, and will lead its readers to help to uncover yet more examples of hyperparathyroidism. The authors have not speculated on the aetiology of primary parathyroid adenomas or primary diffuse parathyroid hyperplasia and one cannot blame them. I. DONIACH

TREATMENT OF HAEMOPHILIA AND OTHER COAGULATION DISORDERS Edited by Rosemary Biggs and R. G. Macfarlane. (Pp. xiv + 391; illustrated, 75s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1966.

Professor Macfarlane and Dr. Biggs and their colleagues have unrivalled experience of all aspects of the treatment of haemophilia, and by their development of the preparation and use of highly concentrated antihæmophilic globulin from animal sources they have enabled major surgery to be undertaken in such patients with conspicuous success. In this book the various members of the Oxford team—physician, surgeon, and laboratory workers—each describe their experience of the treatment of haemophilia and related disorders in great detail from their own point of view; in doing so, they underline the importance of team work and close attention to detail in the management of bleeding episodes, and of surgical procedures in particular. In the final chapter, on haemophilia as a social problem, Macfarlane and Biggs put forward their views on the role of the haemophilia treatment centre, and make a plea for the establishment of one or two major centres in Britain, supported by a number of centres for diagnosis and the treatment of minor episodes. This conclusion is powerfully supported by the remainder of the book, which illustrates the advantages of such an approach in terms not only of

SENSITIVITY TESTS FOR TUBERCULOSIS

The Editor of *Tubercle* (1966), 47, 295, has recently drawn attention to the importance of accurate sensitivity tests in the management of tuberculosis and the advantage of their concentration in laboratories where special experience and skill is available. The Public Health Laboratory Service has designated a number of regional centres to provide such facilities in association with the Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory, The Parade, Cardiff. The centres at which these facilities are available are listed below. Applications for assistance should be addressed to the Director of the laboratory selected.

BRISTOL Public Health Laboratory, Canyng Hall,
Whatley Road, Bristol 8.

LIVERPOOL Public Health Laboratory, 126 Mount
Pleasant, Liverpool 3.

LONDON Bacteriological Laboratory (PHLS),
Room 617, County Hall, Westminster
Bridge, London S.E.1.

MANCHESTER Public Health Laboratory, Withington
Hospital, Manchester 20.

NEWCASTLE Public Health Laboratory, Institute of
Pathology, General Hospital, Westgate
Road, Newcastle upon Tyne 4.

WAKEFIELD Public Health Laboratory, Wood Street,
Wakefield, Yorks.

WINCHESTER Public Health Laboratory, Royal
Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

J. W. HOWIE
21 April 1967

Symposia

THE THYROID GLAND

This symposium, organized by the Association of Clinical Pathologists, was held at the Royal Society of Medicine, London, on 14 and 15 October 1966. It is published under the imprint of the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* as a separately bound supplement to this issue, and is being sent free of charge to all members of the Association of Clinical Pathologists. A concessionary price of 25s. (including postage) will be charged to all other subscribers to the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* who may wish to purchase it. For all other purchasers the price is 30s. (including postage).

TISSUE AND ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

This symposium, organized by the College of Pathologists, was held at the Royal College of Physicians, London, on 23 and 24 February 1967. It will be published for the College on 1 June 1967 by the publishers of the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. The price of this symposium will be 30s. net including postage. A concessionary price of 25s. (including postage) is offered to members of the Association of Clinical Pathologists and to subscribers to the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*.

Orders for these symposia should be addressed to the Publishing Manager, *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1 and those who are entitled to the concessionary price of 25s. for each symposium, as members of the Association or as subscribers to the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* should say so when ordering copies.