EDITORIAL.

Scope of the Journal.—For the publication of original communications concerning the causes, distribution, symptoms, pathology and treatment of malignant diseases and allied conditions. Papers upon clinical, bacteriological, biochemical, pharmacological, physiological, radiological, serological, and other subjects therefore would be acceptable when related to this subject.

Forwarding Papers and Correspondence.—Papers should be forwarded to Professor R. W. Searff, The Middlesex Hospital, London, W.1.

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Reprints.—25 reprints will be supplied free to authors who are registered as personal subscribers to the Journal. Additional copies must be ordered from the Publishers before the issue is printed. Prices on application.
SURVEY OF PAPERS

STOCKS finds that lung cancer mortality is strongly correlated with smoke density in the atmosphere in a number of different areas of England and Wales, these relations being only partially explicable by social differences in the populations concerned. Bronchitis and pneumonia in males and bronchitis also in females show similar strong correlations with smoke (p. 397).

STASZEWKl finds a distinct correlation between tobacco smoking and cancer of the lip, oral cavity, tonsils and larynx in men in Poland (p. 419).

DE WAARD, DE LAIVE and BAANDERS-VAN HALEWIJN find two peaks in the age distribution of mammary cancer at about 48 years and 65 years. They discuss the hypothesis that relates the former to ovarian, and the latter to adrenal dysfunction (p. 437).

HERDAN reports an investigation into the association of malignant disease and diabetes. He finds that the observed overall negative association between the two diseases is true only for the female sex, and discusses possible explanations for this based on the disturbance of glucose metabolism in both diseases (p. 449).

PATEY, from the study of a small series of patients, reaches the interim conclusion that oophorectomy and adrenalectomy, performed as soon as possible after the primary removal of a carcinoma of the breast by standard surgical methods, are unlikely to offer a significant contribution to the problem of carcinoma of the breast (p. 457).

SIM, HOBKIRK, STEWART, BLAIR and FORREST have estimated the urinary 17-ketosteroids and their fractions in women with breast cancer before and after adrenalectomy and oophorectomy and implantation of the pituitary gland with yttrium–90. They find no relationship between pre-operative levels and the response to endocrine surgery. The findings in the urine after pituitary implantation with yttrium–90 indicate that full adrenal suppression is not required for benefit from this operation (p. 460).

WHITAKER finds a highly significant difference between the plasma β-glucuronidase levels of 47 patients with breast cancer and 50 normal women (p. 471).

HEATH finds that the injection of cobalt metal powder into the thigh muscles of rats often results in breakdown of the differentiated muscle fibres into free myoblasts, with the transformation of some of these myoblasts into malignant variants and the formation of characteristic malignant tumours (p. 478).

ILLMAN and GHADIALLY have repeatedly painted the skin of hamsters with DMBA. They find that many melanotic tumours arise in brown and white hamsters, but none in the cream variety. The tumours in the brown animals contain abundant melanin, but those in the white hamsters are usually amelanotic. They discuss the significance of these findings (p. 483).

CHERRY and GLUCKSMANN find that ovariectomy reduces the incidence of vaginal tumours in rats after intravaginal application of DMBA, and administration of oestrogen or of progesterone raises the incidence only slightly. Adrenalectomy or repeated pelvic irradiation restores the level of tumour incidence in these ovariectomised animals to that seen in intact and pregnant rats (p. 489).

PULLINGER finds that subjecting the mice to late ovariectomy results in a 7 to 13 fold reduction in the incidence of mammary carcinoma in former C3Hf breeders (p. 502).
Ranadive, Hakim and Kharkan find that pseudopregnancy in mice leads to a very high incidence of mammary tumours following skin painting with 20-methylcholanthrene, confirming the importance of luteal factor as a promoting agent in chemical carcinogenesis (p. 508).

Marchant reports treating young adult virgin mice with DMBA by skin painting, and later either reciprocally exchanging their ovaries with those of untreated mice, or exchanging only one ovary and re-implanting the other. She finds that the presence of grafts of normal ovaries inhibits the development of ovarian tumours in mice bearing unilateral grafts from animals pretreated with DMBA (p. 514).

Marchant finds that a high proportion of mice bearing bilateral grafts of ovaries from DMBA-treated mice develop ovarian tumours. The proportion of mice bearing tumours does not vary greatly with duration of pretreatment of the ovarian grafts from 10 to 60 days. No tumours develop in mice grafted with normal ovaries (p. 519).

Darcy reports a quantitative study of the rat serum α-globulin previously found to be associated with tissue growth. The protein reaches a high level in foetal and young rats and in pregnant females, compared with the normal adult level (p. 524).

Darcy compares the levels of a rat serum α-globulin reached during tumour growth with the levels in normal animals found in the preceding paper. The protein does not originate at the site of the tumour, but seems to be selectively absorbed from the surrounding fluid by the tumour (p. 534).

Sahasrabudhe, Nerurkar, Narurkar, Tilak and Bhavsar report on the tumour inhibiting properties of thiophene 2:5-dicarboxylic acid, a substance which interferes with the hexose-mono-phosphate pathway. They find significant inhibition of growth of a fibrosarcoma in Swiss mice and increased survival of Yoshida sarcoma bearing rats (p. 547).

Thomlinson describes a technique for growing tumours in the subcutaneous tissue of the rat in such a way that they remain localised until they reach a size suitable for testing effects of different treatments. The effects of oxygenation on the response of such a tumour to radiation are reported (p. 555).

Ball and McCarter report attempts to relate the skin tumour incidence in mice after croton oil treatment to the amount of initiating agent, DMBA, that penetrates unit area of skin in a given time (p. 577).

Hu and McCarter produce evidence suggesting that when a mixture of DMBA and phenanthrene is applied to the skin of mice as an initiating agent the presence of the latter inhibits the activity of the former (p. 591).