THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF CANCER

(The official journal of the British Empire Cancer Campaign for Research)

EDITOR
A. C. Thackray

ASSISTANT EDITORS
G. Farrer-Brown
D. H. Keeling

ADVISORY EDITORS
Sir Stanford Cade
Sir Charles Dodds
Malcolm Donaldson
Sir Alexander Haddow
W. D. Newcomb
Sir Heneage Ogilvie
F. J. C. Roe
Percy Stocks
Sir Brian Windeyer

DIRECTOR
R. W. Scarff

LONDON
H. K. LEWIS & CO. LTD.
136 GOWER STREET, W.C. 1.
Copyright © 1969

Published Quarterly
Annual Subscription, post free, Five Guineas
Single copies, One Pound Ten Shillings net
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 A. C. Thackray, The Middlesex Hospital, London, W.1.

General correspondence relating to the conduct of the Journal should be addressed to Professor R. W. Scarff, The Middlesex Hospital, London, W.1.

Subscriptions and business correspondence are received by the publishers, Messrs. H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd., 136, Gower Street, W.C.1.

Date of Publication.—The Journal is published quarterly in March, June, September and December.

Rapidity of Publication.—All papers accepted for publication will be printed, so far as is possible in the next following issue of the Journal, if received before the first day of the month but one preceding publication. Long papers, or papers with illustrations, may, however, be delayed if not received earlier.

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

Williams, Spitt and Pike have made further studies of Burkitt's lymphoma patients in the West Nile District of Uganda, confirming the space-time clustering phenomenon previously observed and strengthening the hypothesis of an infective agent being involved in the aetiology of this disease (p. 235).

Staszewski reports the results of a retrospective study on smoking and cancer of the oesophagus, stomach, colon and rectum. The negative association found of smoking with cancer of the colon and rectum is discussed at some length, as well as the positive association with cancer of the cardiac—and possibly also pyloric—part of the stomach (p. 247).

Stocks examines each of the causes of death which show higher rates of dying in women than in men at the same ages in Britain and some European countries. The magnitude of the female excess and age patterns in those sites of cancer and the non-malignant diseases where it occurs, are analysed and probable reasons for the female susceptibility are discussed (p. 254).

Burkitt, Williams and Eshleman describe how Voluntary Agency Hospitals, usually serving rural rather than urban communities in developing countries, can make particularly valuable contributions in relating disease patterns to environment. Examples are given which show wide variations in incidence of certain types of cancer within a limited geographical area (p. 269).

Bradshaw and Schonland have analysed 484 interviews on African male lung and oesophageal cancer cases and controls, and find that the use of tobacco, tribal remedies and alcoholic concoctions, and possible exposure to occupational carcinogens occur significantly more often in the cancer cases than controls (p. 275).

Talerman describes the clinico-pathological findings in cases of multiple myeloma and of solitary plasmocytoma observed in Jamaica with its predominantly negro population of West African origin. The relatively high incidence of this disease in Jamaica is compared with the low incidence in the African negro (p. 285).

Tough, Carter, Fraser and Bruce emphasise the value of the histological grading of breast cancers as an index of malignancy (p. 294).

Ahmed and Cook have used hospital records to demonstrate the incidence of cancer of the oesophagus in west Kenya. With adjustment for possible under-reporting of cases, they find the incidence of cancer of the oesophagus to be among the highest in the world and in striking contrast to the much lower incidence just across the border in Uganda and Tanzania (p. 302).

Ashley reports a combined pathological and statistical study on the age specific mortality from, and incidence of, gastric cancer in women. He concludes that the observed data favour a multiple "hit" process rather than a two "hit" process (p. 313).

Atkin and Baker find that whereas malignant tumours generally show a relative deficiency of B, D and G group chromosomes a similar tendency is not shown by the abnormal karyotypes of premalignant lesions of the cervix uteri, large bowel (polyps) and other sites (p. 329).

Timson has investigated the cytotoxic and antimitotic activities of hydroxyurea, using phytohaemagglutinin-stimulated lymphocyte cultures (p. 337).