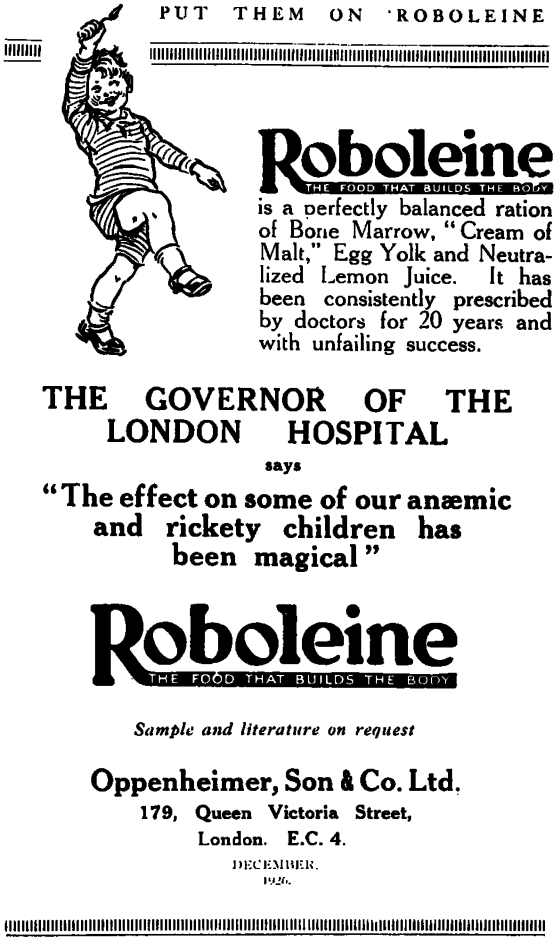
Archives of Disease in Childhood, 1986, **61,** 975–978

Archives 1926–86

In the early years of the journal there were long descriptions of disease with extensive details of postmortem examination, including histology. The prevalence of common diseases in specific parts of cities was documented carefully. There was very little about the newborn. Papers were often 20 pages in length and contained tedious detail in small print that few modern readers would tolerate. In recent years we have published an increasing number of papers on the newborn, especially the preterm infant, biochemistry, molecular biology, scanning by ultrasound, computerised axial tomography, and nuclear magnetic resonance. Advertisements are based on the results of clinical trials rather than opinions (Figure).

At first the journal was published quarterly and between 1951 and 1973 it appeared every two months. The short reports section was introduced in 1970, and monthly publication began in 1973. There was a Technical Editor to run the journal on a day to

"Then . . . .



Now . . . ."

day basis, prepare material for printers, and check proofs before 1952. The names of Technical Editors did not appear inside the cover until 1973. There have always been two Editors of the journal, and apart from the pathologist Ian Cathie they have been full time paediatricians who have carried out their editorial work in their spare time.

The journal was founded and owned initially by the British Medical Association. Dr Stephen Lock, Editor of the *British Medical Journal*, negotiated a new agreement on behalf of the British Medical Association in 1977. The British Medical Association and the British Paediatric Association became equal partners sharing the profits or losses of the journal with up to 800 free copies being supplied to the British Paediatric Association. The agreement was slightly altered in 1981 as a consequence of the considerable growth in the membership of the British Paediatric Association and a new scheme of sharing costs and profits between the two associations was introduced, on the basis of other successful agreements between the British Medical Association and the societies co-owning journals. A group of referees who make a particularly large contribution to the journal form the Editorial Committee, which meets once a year and helps to determine policy. An Associate Editor for perinatal medicine was appointed in 1985. Financial aspects of the journal are the responsibility of the Management Committee, which is composed of the two Editors, two other representatives of the British Paediatric Association, and four representatives of the British Medical Association.

Over the past five years the number of pages has increased from about 1000 to 1250. In 1973 there were two annotations a year, and in 1985 there were 24 annotations with nine personal practice papers and 10 current topic articles. We receive over 800 original articles and over 1000 new manuscripts each year. Original articles are published about five months and short reports about three months after the receipt of an acceptable manuscript. The number of subscribers has remained constant over the past five years, although most of the specialist journals are experiencing a loss of 5% of subscribers each year. About three fifths of our subscribers are outside the United Kingdom.

The following papers have been selected and summarised from the *Archives* to show the variety of authors, changing medical practice, or the first or best description of a new finding.

1928
Anaemia in infancy due to iron deficiency has a high prevalence.
MacKay H M M.

1933
First description of Kwashiorkor.
Williams C.

1939
Early reports of the effects of sulphonamides.
Gaisford W F, Morris N, Moncrieff A, and Fleming G B.

The high incidence of spasticity or other cerebral defects in infants who were born prematurely.
Illingworth R S.

1943
Observations on infant behaviour.
Winnicott D W.

1948
Fibrocystic disease reported in siblings and appeared to have high familial incidence.
MacGregor A R.

1950
Rubella seems able to attack optic lens and cardiovascular system during embryogenesis.
St Huggett A.

1952
Retrolental fibroplasia found in 56 babies in a special care unit during the years 1947–51, suspicion falling on the adverse effect of sudden fluctuations of available oxygen.
Jefferson E.

1954
Haemolytic disease of the newborn had occurred in 27 out of 891 children with congenital perceptive deafness, selective high tone deafness being the main defect.
Fisch L and Osborne D A.

1955
Galactosaemia is recorded for the first time trans-

mitted as a homozygous recessive gene in the offspring of a consanguineous marriage.
Holzel A and Komrower G M.

1961
First five years of life are critical for diagnosis, treatment, and training of children with speech defects.
Sheridan M D.

1963
Homocystinuria: a new inborn error of metabolism.
Carson N A J, Cusworth D C, Dent C E, Field C M B, Neill D W, and Westall R G.

1966
First comprehensive British growth charts, which were subsequently used throughout the world for growth and development records.
Tanner J M, Whitehouse R H, and Takaishi M.

1967
Sugar malabsorption due to deficiencies of disaccharidase activities and of monosaccharide transport.
Holzel A.

First description of methylmalonic aciduria causing metabolic acidosis.
Oberholzer V G, Levin B, Burgess E A, and Young W F.

1970
A thermal neutral environment reduces oxygen consumption and evaporative water loss to a minimum.
Hey E M and Katz G.

1971
Effect of human growth hormone treatment for 1–7 years on growth of a hundred children.
Tanner J M, Whitehouse R H, Hughes P C R, and Vince F P.

1972
Renal transplantation in 19 children.
Hulme B, Kenyon J R, Owen K, Snell M, Mowbray J F, Porter K A, Starkie S J, Muras H, and Peart W S.

1973
Criteria for identifying children who may be at increased risk of unexpected death.
Protestos C D, Carpenter R G, McWeeny P M, and Emery J L.

Changes in ventilator management reduced mortality from hyaline membrane disease and incidence of bronchopulmonary dysplasia.
Herman S and Reynolds E O R.

1974
Good correlation between arterial and transcutaneous oxygen levels in the newborn.
Huch R, Lubbers D W, and Huch A.

1975
Urinary tract in schoolgirls with covert bacteriuria.
McLachlan M S F, Meller S T, Verrier Jones E R, Asscher A W, Fletcher E W L, Mayon-White R T, Ledingham J G G, Smith J C, and Johnston H H.

1976
Fifteen year developmental study on the effects of severe undernutrition during infancy on subsequent physical growth and intellectual functioning.
Stoch M B and Smythe P M.

Diabetic ketosis treated by adding low dose insulin to rehydrating fluid.
Malleson P N.

1977
Increasing breast feeding in the community.
Sloper K S, Elsden E, and Baum J D.

1978
Computed axial tomography and acute neurological problems of childhood.
Day R E, Thompson J L G, and Schutt W H.

Viral infection as a precipitant of wheeze in children; combined home and hospital study.
Mitchell I, Inglish J M, and Simpson H.

1979
A clinical comparison of beclomethasone diproprionate delivered by pressurised aerosol and as a powder from a rotahaler.
Edmunds A T, McKenzie S, Tooley M, and Godfrey S.

1980
Development of gut hormone responses to feeding in neonates.
Lucas A, Bloom S R, and Aynsley-Green A.

Continuous sodium valproate or phenobarbitone in the prevention of simple febrile convulsions. Comparison by a double blind trial.
Ngwane E and Bower B.

1981
Cerebral structure and intraventricular haemor-

rhage in the neonate; a real time ultrasound study.
Levene M I, Wigglesworth J S, and Dubowitz V.

Hyperphenylalaninaemia in the quarter of a million neonates tested in a screening programme.
Walker V, Clayton B E, Ersser R S, Francis D E M, Lilly P, Seakins J W T, Smith I, and Whiteman PD.

1982
Munchausen syndrome by proxy.
Meadow S R.

1983
Nuclear magnetic resonance imaging of the brain.
Bydder G M and Whitelaw A.

1984
Clinical use of DNA markers linked to the gene for Duchenne muscular dystrophy.
Pembrey M E, Davies K E, Winter R M, Elles R G, Williamson R, Fazzone T A, and Walker C.

1985
Virulence genes in prevention of *Haemophilus influenzae* infections.
Moxon E R.

BV

Dr Philip Evans, editor 1948–54, writes:

The first article in the *Archives* was on cirrhosis of the liver in childhood by F J Poynton and W G Wyllie.* In it three cases in one family were described, two sisters and a brother. The same patients appeared in about 1935 in an article in *The Quarterly Journal of Medicine*, this time on glycogen storage disease (was Von Gierke's paper 1929?). The worst affected of the sisters turned up at Guy's Hospital to have her first and probably only baby in about 1950. She was a short stumpy figure with a huge hard liver, cheery and full of energy, which she attributed to physical training at school. The baby boy was unaffected. She was followed up by Edward W Holling who eventually published a paper about her.

*The article is reviewed by A P Mowat on page 941.

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Notes