

# Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

A journal of clinical rheumatology and connective tissue research

*This journal, founded by the Empire Rheumatism Council, now the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research in Great Britain and the Commonwealth, is also supported by the Heberden Society.*

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- <sup>3</sup> Grey E F. Diseases of the pancreas. In: Green A B, Brown C D, eds. *Textbook of Medicine*. London: Silver Books, 1980: 349-62.

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## References

- <sup>1</sup> Manicourt D, Brauman H, Orloff S. Plasma and urinary levels of  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 1978; **37**: 328–32.
- <sup>2</sup> Sjöblom K G, Saxne T, Wollheim F A. Plasma levels of  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 1980; **39**: 333–9.
- <sup>3</sup> Wibell L, Evrin P E, Berggård I. Serum  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin in renal disease. *Nephron* 1973; **10**: 320–31.
- <sup>4</sup> Evrin P E, Wibell L. The serum levels and urinary excretion of  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin in apparently healthy subjects. *Scand J Clin Lab Invest* 1972; **29**: 69–74.

## Obituary

### Ralph Consden

Dr Ralph Consden, formerly biochemist to the Medical Research Council's Rheumatism Unit at Taplow, died in November 1980 at the age of 69. His name will forever be associated with the technique of paper chromatography which he developed with his colleagues Gordon and Martin while at the Wool Research Centre in Yorkshire. Although the technique was originated for the separation and identification of amino acids in hydrolysates of proteins, it was rapidly extended to other complex mixtures such as sugars and lipids. Its application played

a major part in the unravelling of the many unborn errors of metabolism, notably the mucopolysaccharidoses, many of which have rheumatological implications.

Dr Consden was essentially a practical chemist who excelled and delighted in doing things with his own hands. A major stroke from a cerebral thrombosis some 12 years ago was therefore a shattering blow, depriving him not only of his pleasure in work but also of his two major pastimes, cricket and the piano. He was a fine colleague, enjoyed everyone's confidence, and his gifts as a cartoonist will long be remembered by his many friends at Taplow.

L. E. G.

## Notes

### Twelfth Course on Foot Disorders

This course will take place on 18–22 May 1981 in Barcelona. Further information from the secretary of the course, Dr J. C. Gonzalez Casanova, Hospital de San Rafael, Pso. Valle de Hebron, Barcelona 35, Spain.

### Symposium on crystalline deposits in human tissues

This symposium will be held at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Canada, on 13–14 August, 1981. It is an associated meeting of the XIIth Congress of the International Union of Crystallography. The topics include apatite, pyrophosphate, lipid, and other nonproteinaceous crystalline deposits. Details from Dr P.-T. Cheng, Department of Laboratories, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5G 1X5.

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