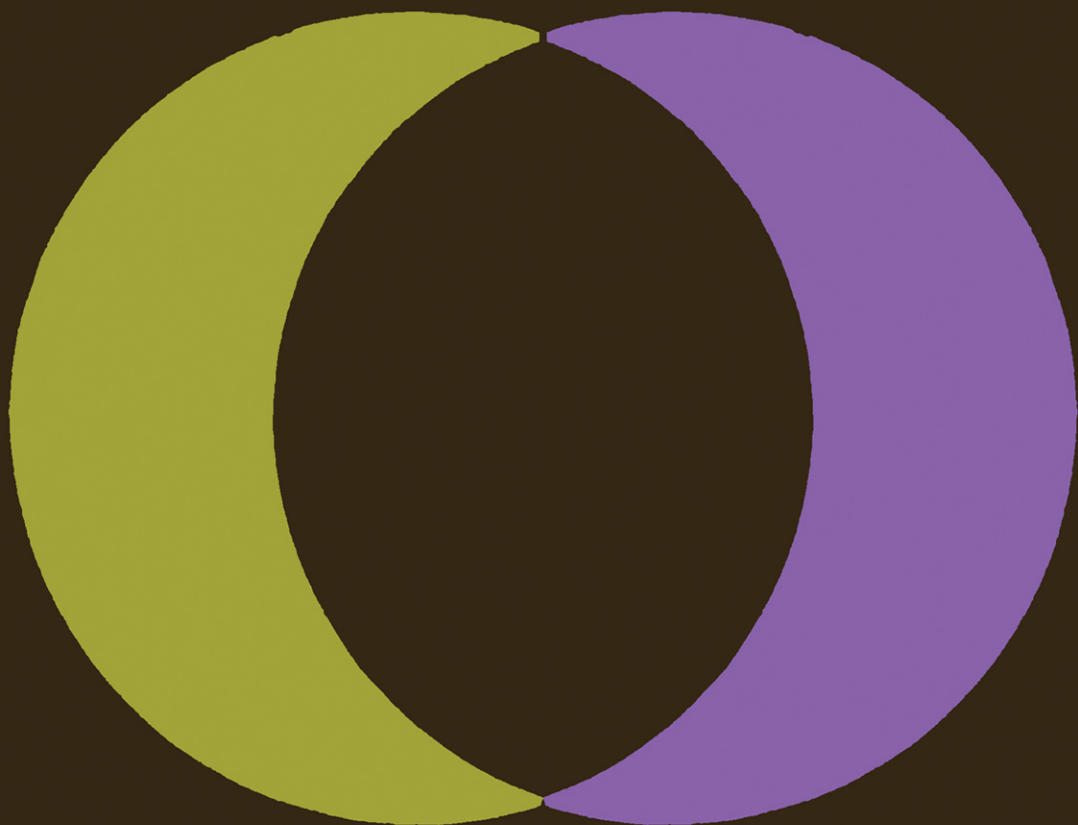


# IMMUNOLOGY OF THE LIVER

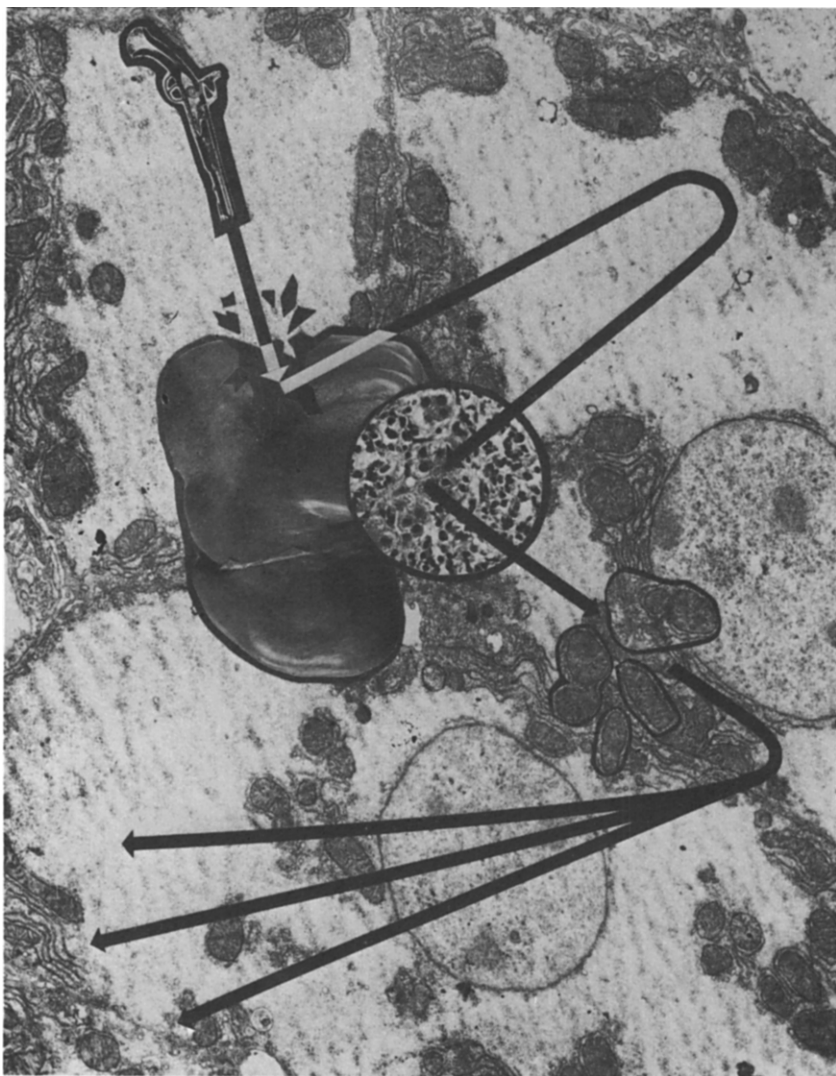
MARTIN SMITH  
and  
ROGER WILLIAMS

Proceedings of an International  
Meeting held at King's College  
Hospital Medical School on 6th  
and 7th July, 1970



WILLIAM HEINEMANN MEDICAL BOOKS LIMITED

## IMMUNOLOGY OF THE LIVER



*Frontispiece*  
*(Flintlock pistol by permission of the trustees*  
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Martin Smith  
and  
Roger Williams

Proceedings of an International Meeting held  
at King's College Hospital Medical School London,  
on 6th and 7th July, 1970

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## EDITORS' FOREWORD

Once involved in liver transplantation, it was perhaps not surprising that The Liver Unit at King's should also become interested in auto-immune liver disease. After an investigation of cell mediated responses during rejection, it became clear to us that such processes might also be involved in active chronic hepatitis and in primary biliary cirrhosis. There is also a high incidence of serum auto-antibodies in these conditions, but their exact role in pathogenesis has not so far been determined. The idea then began to grow of holding a meeting in which laboratory workers and clinicians with interests in this field would come together and discuss the basis of immune reactions in liver disease. To hold such a meeting seemed doubly important in view of the increasing use of immunosuppressive agents in the treatment of patients with apparently different clinical types of liver disease but which, according to current thinking, are attributable to auto-immunity.

The success of such a meeting depends so much on the ability of the chairmen and speakers and to them we express our sincere thanks. Dr. G. Dobias from Hungary, Dr. V. Pipitone from Italy and Dr. N. D. C. Finlayson from New York were unavoidably detained at the last moment but have allowed their papers to be published. Indeed, we are grateful to all those who came from overseas and we hope that this book represents a truly international account of auto-immune liver disease at the present time.

We are very much aware in publishing this symposium of the dangers of delay and we are most grateful to Heinemann's who have achieved such rapid publication. The meeting was generously sponsored by Beecham Research Laboratories and Mr. D. Goodchild, Liaison Officer, gave invaluable assistance. Many members of the Liver Unit helped in the organisation in different ways. It is not possible to mention them individually, except Dr. Adrian Eddleston who was responsible for a major share of the ideas and organization of the meeting.

Finally, without the untiring efforts of my personal secretary, Miss Margaret Skellern, and the Unit secretaries – Mrs. Jean Rowles and Miss Gillian McNay – the meeting and the publication of the proceedings would never have come to fruition.

Martin Smith  
Roger Williams

Liver Unit,  
King's College Hospital,  
London, S.E.5.

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## OPENING ADDRESS BY THE DEAN OF KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL – DR. D. I. WILLIAMS

At the end of January, 1860, an eminent physician was called to see a patient in South Wales. This was Sunday, January 29. On his way back he spent the night in Gloucester and while there he was seized with haematemesis and vomited three pints of blood. He did not rest but took the early train back to London and although feeling very ill he managed to see several patients. At 1 p.m. haematemesis violently came on again and prostrated him completely. Despite the attendances of five of his colleagues he died at 8 p.m. in his consulting room at the age of 50. He had been aware for at least a year of his inevitable doom; indeed, you can read all about it in Thackeray's "Roundabout Papers", where he is thinly disguised as "Mr. London". At the postmortem it was found that he had hypertrophic cirrhosis of the liver, the disease in fact sometimes called after him. Shortly before his death, he had collected a number of lectures which were later published. The last chapter in the book treats of "the therapeutical action of alcohol". "Some of you", he said, "would doubtless be surprised at seeing that a good deal of wine and brandy is administered to many of my patients". Some of you may think to save your consciences when you hasten to agree with his statement that "alcohol possesses its stimulating property because it is a form of aliment, appropriate to the direct nourishment of the nervous system and its preservation, and its especial adaptation to this system gives it an immediate, exciting power superior to any other kind of food".

I may say, he stresses its value in very much divided doses. "Taken too much at one time, the patient will become more or less intoxicated or, in common language (he says), drunk." His potion is a most palatable mixture of Tinct. Canella,\* brandy, syrup and water, and, judging by the accounts of the hospital, he prescribed it very often.

Now, this was a great teacher, a great physiologist and a great clinician. But his greatest contribution was to found this Hospital in 1839, and his statue, by Noble, was erected by colleagues, pupils and friends and now stands on Denmark Hill. His name was Professor Robert Bentley Todd, and our present Liver Unit, by chance rather than design, is in Todd Ward.

Before 1839, King's College – that is, King's College, London, not the Hospital – had medical students but no hospital: Todd was the power behind the foundation of the new Hospital, close to Lincoln's Inn Fields, alongside the graveyard of St. Clement Dane's Church and adjacent to the slaughterhouse of Butchers, Row. "Its locality is fine", the *Medical Times* said, "shambles on one side and a churchyard on the other – butchers within and without, prayers for the living and for the dead". In 1864 a second hospital was built on the old site, where W. H. Smith's are now, and in 1913 we came out to Denmark Hill. In 1909 the Medical School became a School of Medicine of the University of London.

In 1845 there was published a book on "Diseases of the Liver" by George Budd, like Todd, a Fellow of the Royal Society, and herein he describes the case of a man who died in King's in February, 1844, with "inflammation of the hepatic vein". Curiously, he too says, "The patient had for many years been in the habit of drinking enormous quantities of gin", and it was to this that Budd

\* Wild cinnamon.

attributed the inflammation. In 1912, another great man, Samuel Kinnier Wilson, wrote on progressive lenticular degeneration — ‘Wilson’s Disease’, and he came on the staff of this hospital in 1919. On a personal note, may I say that I had the honour of being his house physician, but this was later, in 1937.

This exciting meeting arises, therefore, almost as a natural progression in the study of liver disease at this hepatophilic Hospital. But not quite so. It has arisen, really, on the initiative of my colleague and namesake, Dr. Roger Williams, who gets all my cheques while I get his bills, who conceived the idea and who has worked so hard to bring it into the world, and it is up to the rest of you to give life to this conception. On behalf of the Medical School, I am therefore very happy to welcome you to this meeting, and I hope you will enjoy it.

The Dean then repeated the welcome in German, Italian, Spanish, French, Australian and American.

**PART I**  
**Clinical, Morphological and Virological Aspects**



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