

Surgical Roots and Branches

by Sir Reginald Murley

When Sir Reginald Murley became president of the Royal College of Surgeons in July 1977 he was described in the *Daily Telegraph* as a "redoubtable standard bearer" and as "one of the dwindling number of old style 'surgical



characters'." In Surgical Roots and Branches he gives a lively account of the development of this character, from boyhood and student days at Barts to the six and a half years he spent in the "university of life"—as a medical officer in maxillofacial units in the second world war.

Sir Reginald has also been described as a "firebrand" with "political muscle." Not afraid to say what he thinks or to act on his beliefs, he has successfully fought many battles with the authorities over such issues as delay and inefficiency in



implementing hospital building programmes. He describes these campaigns not only in detail but with gusto, and throughout the book, whether recalling people, places, politics, or surgical practice, he keeps the promise that he makes in his introduction: to provide a narrative that is "as entertaining and informative as possible—not forgetting a little homespun philosophy."

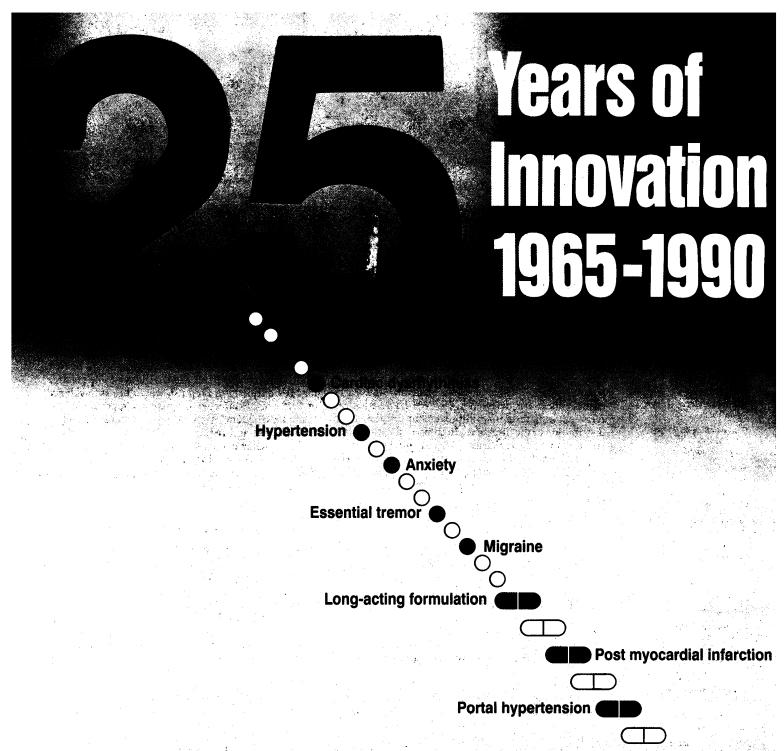
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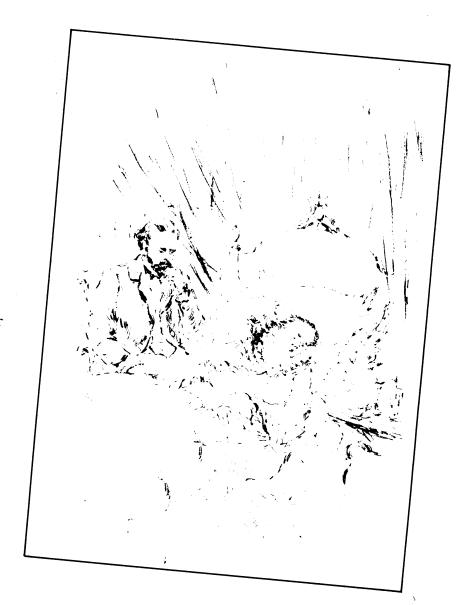
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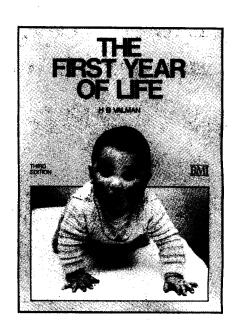


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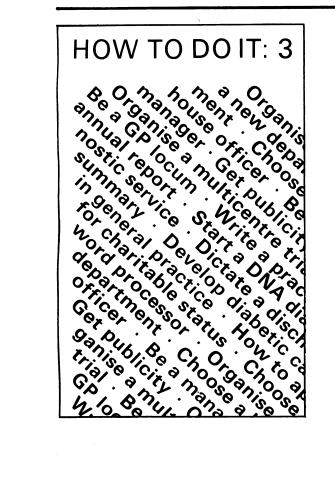
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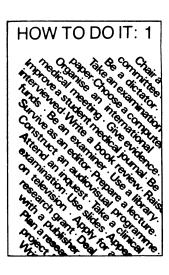


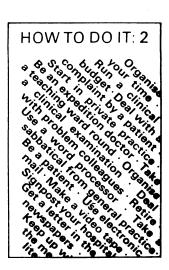
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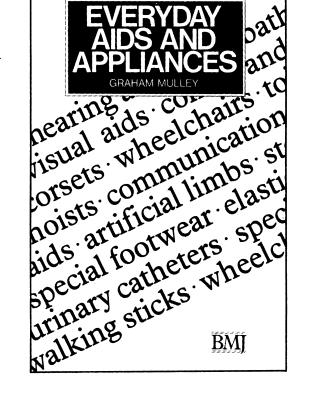
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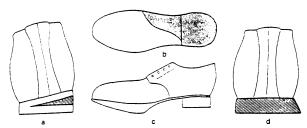
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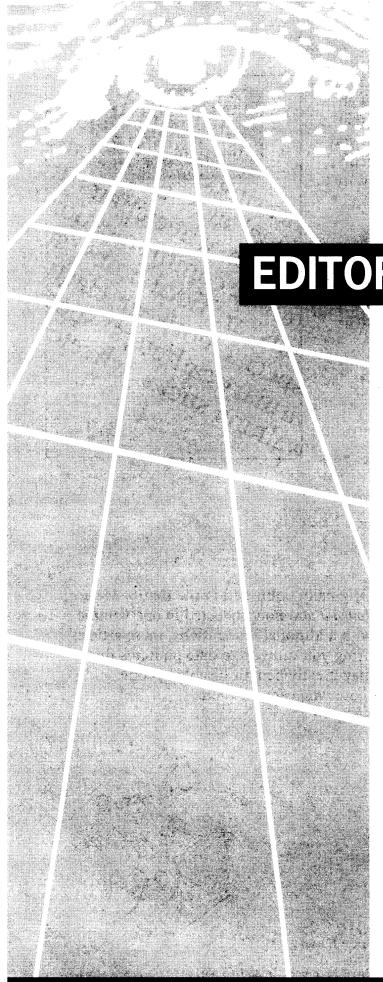


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* formerly known as Campylobacter pylori

in K. et al. Lance 1987, 2, 109-113.

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