gut lesion which none of us can tell you the cause of, and I think we still remain baffled as to the basic cause of coeliac disease.

We are grateful to Professor J. P. Shillingford and Dr. E. D. Williams for assistance in preparing this report, and to Mr. W. Brackenbury for the photomicrographs.

The appointments held by the speakers at the conference are listed below:

- (1) Lecturer in Gastroenterology, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (2) Reader in Anatomy, University of London.
- (3) Professor of Medicine, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (4) Consultant Physician, St. Thomas's Hospital.
- (5) Lecturer in Morbid Anatomy, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (6) Lecturer in Chemical Pathology, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (7) General Practitioner, Essex.
- (8) Hon. Medical Registrar, Hammersmith Hospital.
- (9) Assistant Lecturer in Medicine, Royal Free Hospital.
- (10) Late Senior Medical Registrar, Hammersmith Hospital.
- (11) Reader in Morbid Anatomy, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.

- (12) Senior Lecturer in Medicine (neurology), Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (13) Professor of Morbid Anatomy, Royal Postgraduate Medical School.
- (14) Consultant Physician, Chelmsford & Essex Hospital.

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NEW APPLIANCES

The Higgins Extractor

Mr. G. E. DUNKERLEY, consultant orthopaedic surgeon, Royal Portsmouth Hospital, Portsmouth, writes: The instrument described and illustrated below was designed to facilitate the extraction of London Splint Company type Küntscher nails from the femur. The idea resulted from advice given by Dr. Anthony Higgins, who saw the method in use while working in the orthopaedic department at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, U.S.A.

A set of three Dormer screw extractors (set C, sizes 4, 5, and 6), obtainable from any engineers' tool suppliers, price 11s. 6d., forms the basis of the tool, one of which should be made up for each size of extractor. The holder consists of a bright mild-steel sleeve $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (2 cm.) in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. (3.8 cm.) long, into one end of which the Dormer screw extractor is brazed and pinned (Figs. 1 and 2). Into the other end of the sleeve is screwed and pinned a bright mild-steel rod $\frac{1}{2}$ in. (1.3 cm.) in diameter, 11 in. (28 cm.) long, which is bent into the shape shown. The whole is then chromium-plated.

In order to remove the Küntscher nail its tip is exposed at operation and the bolt extractor is screwed into it in an anticlockwise direction. The hold on the nail is then suffi-

cient for it to be extracted by striking the tip of the crook with a mallet.

I wish to acknowledge the help given by

Mr. R. F. Manning, engineer, Royal Portsmouth Hospital, who also supplied the details of the extractor and the diagram.

FIG. 1

FIG. 2