

# Editor's Note

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WITH THIS ISSUE, *The Journal* presents the second in its series, edited by Drs. J.H. Baron and Henry D. Janowitz, intended to introduce significant contributions made by Mount Sinai staff to gastroenterology and hepatology over the course of almost a century and a half. Dr. Baron, in particular, has done herculean work in digging out information from the archives and locating early publications, to present as complete and accurate an account as possible.

While preparing the material for publication, it became readily apparent that two articles originally published in 1932 merited special consideration, not only for their historical context, but also for their medical content. These articles are therefore republished here, to afford easy access both in print and electronically, via the Web. One of these articles, by Ginzburg and Oppenheimer, originally appeared in *Transactions of the American Gastroenterological Association*; the other, by Crohn, Ginzburg and Oppenheimer, appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. These two articles were originally delivered as oral presentations in early May 1932, the presentation by Ginzburg preceding that by Crohn.

The article by Ginzburg and Oppenheimer has rarely been cited in the medical literature, proba-

bly because the journal was neither widely distributed nor easily available. In fact, there is some question as to whether the two listed authors ever knew of its publication, since they never cited it. A later version of this same article, embellished with relevant figures of pathological specimens and clinical radiographs, appeared in 1933 (*Annals of Surgery* 98:1046-1062).

This, of course, was not the case for the 1932 article by Crohn, Ginzburg and Oppenheimer which appeared in *JAMA*. Both articles provided valuable, if not similar, insights into a disease which often had been described earlier, as Baron points out. But now, Crohn's oral presentation catapulted this disease entity into the consciousness of the medical community. And from this moment, progress in treating the disease would be relentless, thanks to a more thorough description of its clinical course and an improved grasp of its pathophysiology, and the cellular and molecular events with which it is associated.

*The Journal* will continue to republish accounts of important contributions made by Mount Sinai staff, from its own archives as well as from other publications, particularly where hard copy access may be limited or difficult. I hope that our readers will find this useful.