COVER LEGEND

M. S. Biskind and G. R. Biskind in 1944 reported the development of granulosa cell tumors of the ovary in female rats that were castrated and had one ovary transplanted into the spleen (Proc. Soc. Exptl. Biol. Med., 55: 176, 1944).

This interesting physiological method of inducing tumors of the endocrine tissues dependent upon anterior pituitary stimulation was based upon the following facts. Castrated rats with an ovary transplanted to the spleen remain anestrous, due to inactivation in the liver of estrogen thus secreted into the portal circulation. The resultant low levels of estrogen in the general circulation induce the production of increased levels of pituitary gonadotropic hormones, stimulating the ovary in the spleen.

In the original experiment, all of nine rats at 11.5 months-following the operation had ovarian masses in the spleen that on histological examination were tumors of the granulosa cell type. Subsequently, it was found that the transplanted ovary first formed masses of corpora lutea. These transformed into a luteoma, and then the granulosa cell tumor arose in the luteoma. Later research showed that testicular interstitial cell tumors were induced by similar splenic transplant in male rats (Proc. Soc. Exptl. Biol. Med., 59: 4, 1945). Retention of one ovary or testis in normal position or the supply of exogenous steroids prevented the neoplastic transformation (Cancer Res., 13: 216, 1953).

Morton Sidney Biskind, born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1906, a medical graduate of Western Reserve University in 1930, was a research endocrinologist at the Beth Israel Hospital in New York. His career has been in pharmacology, endocrinology and nutrition, and tumor research. Since 1950 he has been in the private practice of medicine in Westport, Connecticut.

Gerson R. Biskind, born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1908, is a cousin of M. S. Biskind. He is a 1932 graduate of the University of California Medical School and, after training in pathology at the University of California Hospital and at Mt. Zion Hospital in San Francisco, has conducted research, teaching, and service in pathology at these institutions.

We are indebted to Dr. G. R. Biskind (right) for photographs of himself and M. S. Biskind, taken between 1944 and 1946.

The cross-section of the tumor in the spleen, 625 days following transplant, shows nodules of granulosa cell tumor in a luteoma. The histology section shows the small cells of the granulosa cell tumor on the right, delineated from the larger luteoma cells.

M. B. S.