

# *INTRODUCTION*

**Heterophyiasis** is prevalent in those who are living around brackish water lakes in Egypt. The small minute fluke was first discovered in Egypt by Bilharz (1861) at Autopsy in the small intestine of a young child in Cairo. Although it was discovered more than one hundred years ago yet very little is known about its Epidemiology, Symptomatology and Chemotherapy and also extra intestinal complications; reported by some authors; necessitate further study. However, in many areas of the Nile Delta, the disease is considered as an important aetiological factor for gastroenterocolitis. But up till now, the suitable antihelminthic which results in complete cure has not been found. Trials were undertaken on a large scale by Nagaty and Khalil (1960, 1961, 1964) to confirm the effectiveness of piperazine adipate (Nometan) alcopar, Yomesan in treatment in one of the endemic foci in Ezbet-El-Borg (Damiatta).

The snails of Schistosomiasis live in fresh water hence its presence in north of Manzala lake was nearly absent due

to many water ways (Boghases) connecting the Mediterranean Sea with Manzala lake. But as a result of 1973 October War these Boghases were closed, and in addition to pouring of the Nile River into Manzala lake transform this brackish water into more fresh ones. This water is suitable for survival of schistosomal snails helping the prevalence of schistosomiasis in a previously free focus.

The prime object of the present work, therefore, is to study the presence of schistosomiasis in North Manzala Lake and also to study the effect of the closure of the Boghases on the prevalence of both heterophyiasis and schistosomiasis. This has been extended to include the study of the clinical picture and treatment of cases of heterophyiasis taken from the same locality.