

a major feat of clear and succinct authorship. Moreover, each important fact of each section or subsection is highlighted by tabulating in italics, in the body of the text. And that, in my opinion, is one of the problems with the book. The only tiny note of controversy is a footnote to a Table on the 'physiological defects in patients with duodenal ulcer', which refers to just one of the defects as 'not found by all investigators'. Of course, there are lots of 'don't know' the reason for this and that, but no real indication that virtually all the italicised 'facts' show how incomplete is our information and understanding of all the facets of this subject. Indeed, each of the highlights would make an excellent discussion and research topic for keen young assistants in gastroenterological units. My second reservation is practical and concerns the quality of care, resulting from application of the management sections of the book. As with most American writings on ulcer diseases, the therapeutic sections, especially medical, are both factually and conceptually out of date – in the case of medical treatment because FDA regulations preclude up-to-dateness. To give one (perhaps not very important) example: while we have maintained patients on treatment with ranitidine for two years or more, the drug is not even mentioned in the book. Summarising: an excellent introduction to the topic of peptic ulceration.

K G WORMSLEY

Esophageal Manometry. Methods and Clinical Practice Thomas R Weibrauch. (Pp. 136. Illustrated. \$10.00.) Urban & Schwarzenberg: Baltimore, Munich. 1981.

The aim of this book is to provide practical details about the instrumentation, methodology, and application of clinical oesophageal manometry. This compact manograph of 150 pages is well illustrated and can be easily read and digested in a single evening. Despite its short length, the text is extremely informative, presents both sides of controversial issues, and includes a relevant list of current references. Two-thirds of the book give important details about manometric instrumentation and technique. The last 60 pages give brief coverage of some representative oesophageal motor disorders. Particularly well done are the chapters on 'Methods for esophageal manometry', 'Physics of intraluminal pressure recording', and 'Factors influencing pressure recording'.

A primer on intraluminal oesophageal manometry has been needed for some time and this book fills this role admirably. Also within the book's pages is some worthwhile information that may have

escaped the attention of those experienced in oesophageal manometry. In my opinion, this book will prove to be extremely helpful for all those who perform oesophageal manometry. I recommend it with considerable enthusiasm.

WYLIE J DODDS

Color Atlas of Liver Biopsy: a Clinical Pathological Guide By Pedro J Grases and Simon Beker G. (Pp. 271. Illustrated. \$98.25.) Alan R Liss: New York. 1981.

This book is an English translation of a work the rationale of which is to provide an 'on-the-job' training for pathologists in Spanish-speaking countries. The British pathologist, however, is more blasé and has a surfeit of picture books on the liver to improve his diagnostic acumen.

The lay-out is reminiscent of students' notes. Each disease is allotted two to three pages in semi-note form. This includes clipped phrases on clinical data, lists of laboratory tests, and postage stamp sized reproductions of radiographs, ultrasonography and CAT scans. There then follows a couple of paragraphs enlarging on the disease, its differential diagnosis and the pathology. One page carries quarter-plate eosinophilic microphotographs from the relevant liver biopsy. Throughout the book the photomicrographs are generally of high-power fields, so one is unable to appreciate the balance between lobular and portal morphology, which is important to histopathologists. I am not sure of the deeper meaning of the featureless silhouette of the human body, bar the hepatic outline, that accompanies each section.

Apart from the presentation of individual diseases there are notes on processing specimens, a glossary of terms, lists of hepatotoxic drugs, and references listed by disease.

I am sure that the book does fulfil a need in the unique market for which it is intended, but it would seem to have little usefulness in English-speaking countries when it is compared with its competitors.

ASHLEY B PRICE

Crohn's Workshop: A Global Assessment of Crohn's Disease Edited by Emanoel C G Lee. (Pp. 196. Illustrated. £16.50, DM91.) Heyden HM+M Publishers: London. 1981.

The topic of Crohn's disease continues to attract authors and organisers of conferences. Twenty years of visiting in South Africa have convinced Mr Emanoel Lee, the Oxford surgeon, that Crohn's disease has become more common in that country and it is no longer as rare a disorder as it was two

decades ago. *Crohn's Workshop: A Global Assessment of Crohn's Disease* is the outcome of a meeting held in Cape Town during August 1979 which aimed, among other things to decide whether there has been a real increase in the incidence of the disease. Readers hoping to find an answer to this critical question should start with the highly pertinent and intelligent chapters contributed by M J S Langman and J K Ritchie which highlight many of the difficulties in undertaking satisfactory epidemiological studies and interpreting their results. The book is divided into four sections which deal with a general description of the disease, the features of the disorder in high and low incidence countries, and, finally, the problems of gathering acceptable data in this most perplexing illness. The clinical, pathological, and radiological accounts are relatively brief and most interest lies in the documentation of Crohn's disease from high incidence countries: USA, Britain, Netherlands, and Sweden, and those where there is a low incidence: South Africa, Australia, Brazil, and Japan. At the finish, the reader will be no closer to the cause of Crohn's disease but he will have enlarged his perspective of the problems and familiarised himself with the difficulties facing those who study this disease.

I A D BOUCHIER

The Pancreas Edited by W M Keynes and R G Keith. (Pp. 371. Illustrated. £18.00.) W Heinemann: London, 1981.

Diseases of the pancreas have always bedevilled the diagnostic acumen of the physician. In recent years there have been many striking advances in our knowledge of how the gland works and in the development of new diagnostic procedures which have a particular relevance to this gland. These advances have been collated into a book by contributions from acknowledged experts in this field.

The book is a further edition of the 'Tutorials in Postgraduate Medicine' series. It has been divided into eight sections and there are 24 contributors. As well as covering the diagnostic and hormonal advances there are sections describing the normal function and control of the organ and an expanded one on pancreatitis. Emphasis has been placed on those areas of interest to the clinician and an effort is made to give diverging opinions where appropriate. Nevertheless, there is a great deal of needless repetition between chapters. One is left with the feeling that if the editors had spent more time in editing and less on editorial notes it would have helped.

The book is dominated by surgical contributors, especially so in the clinical section. Physicians may cavil at some of the points made on the management of complications traditionally in their domain. As with any multi-author book some chapters are less comprehensive than others and some are regrettably inadequately referenced for the audience for whom the book is intended. Nevertheless there are excellent treatises on many topics, which include the secretions of the pancreas and its clinical assessment, cystic fibrosis, new radiological techniques, and endoscopic pancreatography. Overall this book will be of interest to all clinicians as an exposition of the present state of the art.

R G WEIR

Books received

Human Nutrition Research Edited by Gary R Beecher. Beltsville Symposium No. 4. (Pp. 303; illustrated; £20.) St Albans, Herts: Granada Publishing, 1982.

Stoma Care Edited by Brigid Breckman. (Pp. 217; illustrated; £9.50 limp cover.) Beaconsfield, Bucks: Beaconsfield Publishers, 1981.

Colonic Carcinogenesis Falk Symposium 31. Edited by Ronald A Malt and Robin C N Williamson. (Pp. 406; illustrated; £26.50.) Lancaster: MTP Press, 1982.

Clinical Ultrasound Reviews Volume 2. Edited by Fred Winsberg and James Stewart. (Pp. 474; illustrated; £48.) Chichester, Sussex: Wiley, 1982.

Histochemistry The Widening Horizons of Applications in the Biomedical Sciences. Edited by Peter J Stoward and Julia M Polak. (Pp. 293; illustrated; £25.) Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley, 1981.

Intestinal Protozoan and Helminthic Infections Reports of a WHO Scientific Group. Tech. Rep. Ser. 666. (Pp. 150; not illustrated; Sw fr 10.) London: HMSO, 1981.

World Review of Nutrition and Dietetics Vol. 38. Physiology and Social Nutrition and Nutritional Education. Edited by G H Bourne. (Pp. 299; illustrated; DM 195, \$97.75.) Basel: Karger, 1981.

Diarrhea in Disorders of Intestinal Transport Edited by Hans Ruppin, Wolfram Domschke, and Konrad H Soergel. (Pp. 195. Illustrated. Price not stated.) New York: Thieme, 1981.

Developments in Nuclear Medicine 1. Cholescintigraphy Edited by P H Cox. (Pp. 219. Illustrated. Price not stated.) Dordrecht, Holland: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1981.