technique. Chapter headings cover a range of conditions such as the normal oesophagus, varices, hiatal hernia, oesophagitis, tumours etc.

The book is well produced and convenient in size for departmental use. The radiographic illustrations are of high quality, and frequently accompanied by lucid line drawings. In a few cases the arrows labelling the radiographs are confusing, and one would have appreciated more detailed information on gas flow and pressure settings for the insufflator: but these are small points.

In my opinion this atlas affords a first class presentation of what can be achieved by double contrast studies of the oesophagus. It is a book that will repay attention from all those interested in barium work, and it could lead to changes in the time honoured barium swallow.

M J TURNER

Mucosal biopsy of the gastrointestinal tract By R Whitehead. (Pp. 320; illustrated; £39.50) Philadelphia: W B Saunders, 1985.

This book is already established as a source of valuable diagnostic information among gastrointestinal pathologists. The third edition is nearly 30% larger than its predecessor and includes four new chapters on the oesophagus. Criteria are carefully outlined for identification of dysplasia in Barrett's gastric lined oesophagus associated with the risk of adenocarcinoma and in the different context of squamous mucosa associated with the risk of squamous carcinoma.

Acute mucosal injury of the stomach (acute gastritis) is discussed with reference to noxious chemicals, drugs, stress, infection, and radiation. Chronic gastritis is covered in considerable detail with reference to Type A, Type B and Type AB gastritis. The significance of *Campylobacter pyloridis* is not debated and there is no reference to foveolar hyperplasia as a marker of bile reflux. The observations on jejunal biopsy, coeliac disease, and lymphoma are useful and relevant to the literature. The parameters for recognition of progressive lymphoid hyperplasia as a premalignant condition in coeliac disease require clearer differentiation from other non-neoplastic lymphoid hyperplasias.

There are splendid descriptions of parasitic and colorectal disease and individual lesions are superbly illustrated. Attention is drawn to the occurrence of pseudomembranous lesions in ischaemic enteritis and to the role and significance of microthrombosis in this condition and in the haemolytic uraemic syndrome as well as in clostridial and staphylococcal enterocolitis. Colorectal adenomas are not evaluated in the text although observations are included on gastric adenomas. Topics such as collagenous

colitis, solitary ulcer of the rectum and malacoplakia are demonstrated and discussed with interest. This new edition will be welcomed by all pathologists striving for brilliance and accuracy in diagnosis.

H THOMPSON

Gastrointestinal immunity for the clinician Edited by R G Shorter and J B Kirsner. (Pp. 272; illustrated; \$49.50.) Orlando, Florida: Grune and Stratton, 1985.

This book succeeds in placing the recent advances in gastrointestinal immunity into context for the clinician. The contributors are well known in the field and it would appear that the volume has been edited rather than just compiled by Drs Shorter and Kirsner. The three introductory chapters which cover mucosal immunity and the genetic control of immune responses have both depth and clarity, are visually well presented and generally well referenced. The direction of the volume then changes to critically evaluate the role of the immune response in important diseases, notably pernicious anaemia, coeliac disease, intestinal lymphangiectasia, food allergy, infection, inflammatory bowel disease, and cancer. Finally, there are three short chapters on immunodeficiency in the gut and the immunology of oral and liver diseases. The final, very brief chapter on liver diseases will certainly be a disappointment to some general gastroenterologists and hepatologists, since it would appear to have been added as an afterthought and certainly does not do justice to this rapidly expanding aspect of abdominal immunology. Overall this volume is attractive, accurate, eminently readable and comprehensible. It should find its way on to the book shelves of young and established gastroenterologists and laboratory investigators working in mucosal immunity and gut immunology.

M J G FARTHING

News

FASEB Summer Research Conferences, 1986

The 1986 series of Summer Research Conferences organised by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology will be held in Vermont and Colorado between 8 June and 15 August. Among the 10 fields covered, symposia devoted to folic acid and B-12 metabolism, micronutrients, dietary fibre, and physiology and pathophysiology of the splanchnic circulation may be of interest to readers. Further information is available from Dr Robert W Krauss, Executive Director, FASEB Summer Conferences, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda MD 20814, USA.