This book is not intended as a textbook, but it is a well-produced monograph which is a reflection of the work of an expert and a worthy broadside into the ranks of those who still support the single contrast barium enema.

B. M. THOMAS

Polypoid Lesions of the Gastrointestinal Tract Second edition. By C. E. Welsh and S. E. Hedberg. (Pp. 220; illustrated; £10.00). W. B. Saunders: Philadelphia, London, Toronto. 1975.

The second edition of *Polypoid Lesions of the Gastrointestinal Tract* has brought this popular monograph up to date. The original format has been retained and the important data from the Massachusetts General Hospital reproduced again. To this have been added the advances brought about by the advent of fibroendoscopy in the last few years.

Most of these polypoid lesions occur in the colon and rectum and there are good sections on the technique of colonoscopy and the way in which polyps should be removed. The authors give an authoritative account of the management of polypoid lesions and state clearly the policy which should be adopted for polypoid adenomas with focal malignant change.

This is a well-written informative book which will be of value to the surgeon particularly interested in colorectal disease and to gastroenterologists in general.

P. R. HAWLEY

La Maladie de Crohn Recto-colique By M. Julien and J. Vignal et collaborateurs. Report presented to 78th French Surgical Congress. (Pp 141. 62F). Masson: Paris. 1976.

This book is the result of a retrospective National Survey of 192 cases of large bowel Crohn's disease treated surgically. The book begins with a careful description of the pathology, but the bulk of it is clinically orientated with a particular emphasis on surgical treatment. The data have been painstakingly collected from the many centres providing cases for the study and are clearly set out in tables. The aim of the nationwide approach was to make the series as large as possible, but one consequent disadvantage has been that the variety of diagnostic and thera-

peutic approaches employed by the different hospitals involved may have affected the significance of some of the results. For example, only about two-thirds of the patients had had a sigmoidoscopy and only half of these a rectal biopsy.

Written in French, this is not a book for the general reader. For those with a special interest in Crohn's disease, it reveals that the disease and its problems are the same in France as in the rest of Europe and the USA. As a source of information of the French experience and medical literature, the monograph may find its way to medical libraries, but not, one suspects, to many private bookshelves.

R. BURNHAM

Current Surgical Practice vol I. Edited by John Hadfield and Michael Hobsley. (Pp. 268; illustrated; £14.00 hardback, £6.95 paperback). Arnold: Maidenhead. 1976.

This book brings together postgraduate lectures given at the Royal College of Surgeons and, although primarily arranged as part of the training for the Fellowship, nevertheless it is remarkable how much of the book is relevant to gastroenterological medical practice. Ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, peptic ulcer, pancreatitis, abnormal haemostasis, and intestinal obstruction are all common ground between physicians and surgeons. It is a book which should be easily available to junior medical and surgical staff. Each section brings the subject up-to-date in a way particularly appropriate to clinical practice.

Topics in Gastroenterology 4. Edited by S. C. Truelove and J. A. Ritchie (Pp. 384; illustrated; £13.00). Blackwell: Oxford. 1976.

This excellent annual publication has become an essential part of the recording of progress in gastroenterology. Twenty-four contributors to the Oxford courses have their written versions of their lectures recorded. The main themes were viral hepatitis, reflux oesophagitis and hiatal hernia, radiosotopes in gastroenterology, and miscellaneous topics which included computerised tomography, H_2 receptor antagonists, gastric mucus, and carbenoxolone preventing infection after gastrointestinal surgery, and the actions of sulphasalazine.

Symposium on the Fibrotic Process Edited by M. I. V. Jayson. (Pp. 79; illustrated; £3.50.) BMA: London, 1977. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, February 1977, vol. 36, suppl. 2.

The whole process of fibrosis and scarring has numerous implications for clinicians and pathologists and this supplement brings together scientific studies from a wide front. Although rheumatology and immunology are well represented, liver diseases and intestine diseases are included, as well as a study on practolol peritonitis.

Pathology of Tumours of the Oral Tissues By R. B. Lucas. Third edition (Pp. 426; illustrated; £16.50). Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1976.

This book is primarily intended for the diagnostic pathologist whose principal concern is the histological evaluation of biopsy and operation material. For the benefit of clinicians with a limited knowledge of pathology there is an account of the commoner lesions. The book is particularly well produced and the illustrations are excellent.

People and Food Tomorrow Edited by Dorothy Hollingsworth and Elisabeth Morse. (£10). Applied Science Publishers: Barking, Essex.

In 1973 the British Nutrition Foundation held its first conference on 'Nutritional problems in a changing world' and this has been followed by a second conference in 1976 on 'People and food tomorrow' reported in this book. The implications of the developing countries as they progress, aspiring towards the western way of life, bring in many considerations of the restraints on adequate nutrition imposed by social, economic, and agricultural factors. It is a field in which medical considerations remain only just below the surface and, indeed, are very relevant to physicians who take a wider view of their responsibilities. Although we tend to think more of diseases of affluence in western countries, the deficiency states related to vitamin D, iron, and folate may assume clinical significance and there is increasing interest in other of the mineral micro-nutrients. This is an admirable book for widening the horizon of the general physician, particularly those who have a gastroenterological bias.