Topics in Paediatric Gastroenterology. Edited by J. A. Dodge. (Pp. 226; illus; £6.50). Pitman Medical: London. 1976. This book reports on the papers and discussion at a symposium of which the date and site are unfortunately not mentioned in the book. (On inquiry, the publishers tell us that it was held at the Welsh National School of Medicine on 7, 8, and 9 July 1975 and that it was a Postgraduate Course in paediatric gastroenterology organised by J. A. Dodge.) It covers development of the gut in the fetus and young children; infantility and its problems; diarrhoea; abdominal pain, and constipation. It conveniently brings together much valuable scattered information, but the price seems high for a paperback.

International Directory of Specialized Cancer Research and Treatment Establishments. UICC Technical Report Series, Vol. 23. (Pp. 521; £30). International Union against Cancer: Geneva. 1976. This is an extraordinarily comprehensive and detailed account of every main centre in the world dealing with specialised cancer research and therapy. The description of each establishment includes: full address and telephone number; affiliations; directors and departmental heads; number of personnel; budget in national currency and in dollars; annual cancer-patient statistics; a review of the establishment's activities in cancer treatment and rehabilitation, clinical cancer research, experimental cancer research and professional education; and, finally, data on the availability of postgraduate training posts and special cancer library facilities.


Trace Elements in Human Health and Disease. Vol. 1. Zinc and Copper and Vol. 2. Essential and Toxic Elements. By A. S. Prasad (Pp. 470; illustrated; £20.30; and pp. 525; illustrated; £20.90 respectively). Academic Press: London. 1977. These two volumes bring together a vast amount of information on trace elements zinc and copper, magnesium, selenium, fluoride, cadmium, lead, and mercury. They will be of great value to physicians, nutritionists, and toxicologists. A particularly interesting section relates to the leaching of important trace metals by excess dietary fibre in some developing countries. These are books which should be easily available in most major gastroenterological research centres. It is one of the important monograph series published by the American Nutrition Foundation.

Nutrition Bulletin. British Nutrition Foundation: London. This authoritative bulletin, published three times a year, is one of the useful bridges between clinical nutrition and medical practice. This current number includes contributions on "Chappati flour and vitamin D," 'Multiple sclerosis and diet,' 'Injury, operation, wound healing—nutritional implications' (Sir David Cuthbertson). In addition, there are studies on current national dietary change with their implications for food supplies, and papers on the safeguarding of food standards and on the brewing of beer. The Nutrition Bulletin is published in January, May, and September by the British Nutrition Foundation, 15 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PS. Annual subscription £3.

Gastrointestinal Emergencies. Edited by F. R. Barány and A. Torsoli. (Pp. 428. Illustrated. £30.00). Pergamon: Oxford. This is the proceedings of the 1st International Symposium on this subject, held at the Wenner-Gren Centre, Stockholm, in September 1975, and includes the edited discussion and a considerable number of illustrations. The various sessions covered severe diarrhoea, severe upper gastrointestinal bleeding, acute liver failure, acute serious pancreatitis, and the organisation of gastrointestinal intensive care units. There are 55 contributors from many countries, assuring an authoritative statement on the discussion of, in particular, present-day techniques in diagnosis and treatment.

Nutrition and its Disorders. By Donald S. McLaren. (Pp. 293; £3.25). Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1976. This is the second edition of a compact and most informative book. It covers (a) normal nutrition, (b) primary and secondary nutritional disorders, (c) nutrition and diet in other conditions, (d) nutrition in the community. It is a book to be studied by junior doctors and kept in a departmental library. Fibre has come into this edition but should be covered in more detail next time in view of its importance.

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