chapters on motility. Diet, and psychological aspects, are not considered, and the liver is allotted little more than two chapters.

The book has to compete with review articles which appear regularly in the journals. The editors have sought to provide a balance of topics within gastroenterology, and, as a balanced and thoughtful text, it is the best available. It is a book that will be read with interest by gastroenterologists, either established or in training, and by those engaged in research and wishing to broaden their perspective.

T S LOW-BEER

Ultrastructural aspects of the liver and its disorders By K Tanikawa. (Pp. 357. Illustrated. \$41.50.) Igaku-Shoin: Tokyo, New York. 1979.

The second edition of this profusely illustrated guide to hepatic ultrastructure appears 11 years after the first. It remains one of the few reference books on the subject, and its expansion from 239 to 357 pages and from 165 to 242 plates is welcomed. The price is reasonable. The figures are well-printed and derived from electron micrographs of good quality; their content reflects the author's extensive personal experience in the field. The English is clear.

The first section of the book describes the normal human and rodent liver. Scanning electron micrographs are used appropriately to facilitate understanding of structure. Some physiological mechanisms are next discussed, and illustrated with experimental data. A section on fine structural pathology includes a comprehensive index of the individual organelle changes and the diseases in which they are found, with comment on their causes and effects. The biggest part of the book is devoted to individual conditions. Here the reader may be surprised to find that illustrations of human diseases are interspersed with experimental animal material. In places the selection of illustrations seems odd—for instance, carotenemia is shown but there are no pictures of glycogen storage disease, Gaucher's disease, or Niemann-Pick disease, although these are all briefly discussed in the text. This slight lack of balance may well represent the common difficulty in collecting satisfactory material for electron microscopy. Finally there is a thoughtful essay on the application of electron microscopy in diagnosis.

The book is recommended to depart-

ments of gastroenterology and hepatology, to morphologists interested in ultrastructure, and to research workers in the field of liver disease.

P J SCHEUER

Diseases of the small intestine in childhood By John Walker-Smith. (Pp. 412. Illustrated. 178 Dutch Guilders.) Igaku-Shoin: Tokyo.

A second edition of this book reflects the success of the first, as well as the rapid growth of paediatric gastroenterology as an important specialty. In the present edition several chapters have been modified in the light of new knowledge, and each chapter has an up-to-date bibliography. The text is written in a simple and clear style and an understanding of the disease processes discussed is increased by an outline of the relevant physiological processes. The quality of some of the illustrations could have been improved, but this does not seriously detract from the value of the book as a whole. Certain sections such as rotavirus gastroenteritis, cow's milk protein intolerance, and Crohn's disease have been extended, and this is appropriate in the light of developments in these areas since the publication of the first edition in 1975.

The second edition deserves the success of the first and will be an asset to all concerned with the diseases of the small intestine in childhood, whether they are practising clinicians, pathologists, research workers, or undergraduates.

J. T. HARRIES

Clinics in gastroenterology: Infections of the GI tract. Guest Editor H P Lambert. (Pp. 838. Illustrated. £8.25.) W B Saunders: London. 1979.

This is a timely volume which brings together reviews in the physiology of the gastrointestinal tract to match recent advances in microbiology and virology, with special reference to infection and diarrhoea. The book comprises 12 chapters, with Professor H P Lambert as guest editor.

In general, the standard is extremely high in all the chapters and some are quite outstanding. The pathophysiology of diarrhoea by L A Turnberg is a beautiful summary of the mechanisms involved in the production of diarrhoea, including a full description of the role of adenylyclase and 'gut hormones'. The role of viruses, particularly rotavirus, is discussed by Professor Banatvala. It was an inspiration to get Butzler and Skirrow as

joint authors on the chapter dealing with campylobacter enteritis. This must surely be as definitive a statement on the subject as is possible at the moment. The book is worth having for this chapter alone.

Antibiotic-associated colitis is described in detail by John Bartlett keeping a firm 'mid-atlantic' position in his discussion of the history of pseudomembranous colitis. The whole *C. difficile* story is given in detail and the chapter ends with a useful section on management.

Anyone wishing to be brought up to date on *Esch. coli* diarrhoea, shigella infections, typhoid and other salmonella infections, as well as the mechanisms of antibiotic resistances, will find plenty to please in these chapters. They are all supported by references which are given in full.

Two minor surprises for me were the claims that shigella infection may be associated with a 'typhoidal Rose spot eruption' and also that 'a fleeting rash' has been reported in campylobacter enteritis. Both have, so far, apparently been too fleeting for this reviewer.

The volume ends with a nice summary by Professor Lambert on the place of antimicrobial agents in diarrhoea. He gives two good diagrams, one for children and one for adults, which sum up the position in this controversial subject.

HILLAS SMITH

Books received

Topics in paediatric gastroenterology Edited by J A Dodge. (Pp. 226. Illustrated. £8.) Pitman Medical, Tunbridge Wells. 1976.

Dietary fibre in human nutrition: a bibliography By Hugh C Trowell (P. 56; £6.00). John Libbey: London. 1979.

Hepato-renal syndrome Edited by Ettore Bartoli and Livio Chianussi (Proceedings of the International Symposium on the Hepato-Renal Syndrome, Italy 1978). Pp. 506; price not stated). Piccin: Padova, Italy. 1979.

Progress in peptic ulcer Edited by Gy Mozsik and T Javor (Pp. 774; illustrated; price not stated) Akademiai Kiadó: Budapest. 1976.