Contemporary issues in gastroenterology. Diseases of the esophagus Edited by Sidney Cohen and Roger D Soloway. (Pp. 305; illustrated; £28.) New York: Churchill Livingstone, 1982.

This is the first volume in a series entitled *Contemporary issues in gastroenterology* and is edited by two eminent gastroenterologists from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine with 20 contributors, covering many topics. Congenital disorders by J T Boyle are well described in 24 pages and the chapter on oesophageal cancer by a pathologist, J J Thompson, covers premalignant changes and epidemiology fully in 38 pages with good photomicrographs. New concepts in oesophageal surgery by D B Skinner and A G Little is only 10 pages long and there is almost nothing on surgery for oesophageal cancer.

The index confirms the paucity of information on bile reflux and radiation for oesophageal cancer; intubation of the oesophagus is also only briefly mentioned. These particular subjects are current topics for discussion in Europe, but this is an American book with a bias to research done there. It summarises well the present state of the art in the USA to the exclusion of Europe. There are references to Ingelfinger's classical article in 1958 in *Physiological Reviews* which serve to emphasise how good he and his contemporary Code were, and how relatively little we have really advanced in our knowledge in the last 20 years in spite of much expenditure of time and accumulation of data.

RICHARD EARLAM

programme included a reception at the National Railway Museum and the Annual Dinner of the Society was held in the Georgian Assembly Rooms.

BSG Early Gastric Cancer/Dysplasia Trial

A prospective multicentre collaborative study under the aegis of the BSG will shortly commence with the following objectives. (1) To set up a register of patients diagnosed as having early gastric cancer or gastric dysplasia in Britain, and to investigate observer agreement between pathologists in defining these entities. (2) To study clinical characteristics and to delineate pathological criteria for the diagnosis of early gastric cancer and gastric dysplasia, to form the basis for future comparisons. (3) To establish a cohort of patients with agreed dysplasia for clinical follow-up.

Interested gastroenterologists who are willing to provide patient data (on a confidential basis) should contact the convenor of the Steering Group, Dr F T de Dombal, Level 5, Room 5.8, Clinical Sciences Building, St James Hospital, Leeds LS9 7TF, for further details and a 'starter kit' of patient dossier.

Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver

A scientific meeting will be held on 12–14 January 1984 in Bangkok, Thailand. Further information from Dr T Chainuvati, Division of Gastroenterology, Dept of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok 10700, Thailand.

News

BSG Autumn Meeting: York

The 44th Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the University of York on 28–30 September 1983 under the Presidency of Professor J E Lennard-Jones. The first day was devoted to a teaching session on 'New function tests in gastroenterology' and to meetings of the subgroup of the Society. The scientific sessions were held on the following two days and included 120 papers and 43 poster communications. The Sir Arthur Hurst Lecture was given by Dr K N Jeejeebhoy on 'The metabolic basis for nutritional support' and the Endoscopic Foundation Lecture on 'The endoscopic control of bleeding' was given by Professor D C Auth. The social