tract and pancreatic disease (Zimmon), laparoscopy (Lightdale) and laser photocoagulation for GI bleeding, (Protell, Silverstein and Auth) deserve mention.

It is good to see so much practical informative and helpful reviews packed into this one volume. I can strongly recommend this book to the practising gastroenterologist.

L A TURNBERG


Having passed the barrier of having books on organs or diseases alone rather than systems, we are now at that stage of specialisation when monographs are published on one particular aspect of an organ. This particular volume contains 192 pages and 185 figures on the pathology of the oesophagus and might have been expected to be too specialised because it is written by pathologists with the aim of broadening the subject for their brethren by adding clinical, physiological, and radiological data. It is very clearly and simply written, however, with no jargon and well structured sentences, presents its pathological message excellently and has the advantage of definite statements by the authors, who are acknowledged experts in their field, when there is controversy. An example is the suggestion that 'polypoid carcinoma with dominant spindle cell elements' be used instead of carcinosarcoma or pseudosarcoma. There is a good discussion on dysplasia and its relationship to oesophageal cancer with comparisons from cervical cancer which is associated with similar problems. The photomicrographs are very clear but the endoscopic pictures have those awful black dots, representing broken fibreoptic bundles and the failure of publishers to enhance the image by eliminating them. Clinicians interested in the oesophagus will learn much by reading this monograph on oesophageal pathology even though it was aimed at pathologists.

R EARLAM


News

British Society of Gastroenterology

The 1985 Spring Meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology was held at the University of Sussex from Wednesday 20 March to Friday 22 March 1985 under the Presidency of Professor Eric Blair. The first day was devoted to a teaching day on 'The ravages of alcohol'; duly warned, members and guests were entertained to a reception at the end of the day and progressed to the Conference Dinner in Hove Town Hall on the following evening. The scientific programme filled the second and third days, and included a lecture by Professor Howard Thomas, the 1985 Research Medallist. Apart from the programmes of various specialist groups that are now an established feature of the Society's meetings, 157 communications selected by the programme committee were given as oral or poster presentations.

BSG Research Award 1985

A three page summary of personal research work is invited by the Award Committee of the British Society of Gastroenterology who will recommend to Council the recipient of the 1985 Award. A bibliography may also be submitted if desired. The Award consists of a medal and £100 prize. Entrants must be 40 years or less (on 31 December 1985) but need not be a member of the BSG. All (or a substantial part) of the work must have been performed in the UK or Eire. The recipient will be required to deliver a 40 minute lecture at the Plenary Session of the Spring meeting in 1986. Applications (six copies) should be made to: The Honorary Secretary, BSG, The Rayne Institute, 5 University Street, London WC1E 6JJ. BY 1 DECEMBER 1985.

Correction

The name of Dr Jørgen Rask Madsen was inadvertently omitted from the referees' list in our January issue, p. 106, and we would like to apologise for this oversight.