obviously not in related technique should be cholangitis with Q66. FRCR would often give us a part. My main problem is in deciding to whom the book should be recommended. Radiologists coming up to FRCR would find the examples too easy and the technique related questions are so basic that they are obviously not aimed at them. I suspect that gastroenterologists in training would find the clinical information too basic, and the questions are often so written that the answer is given away even without looking at the images. Perhaps first year radiologists and non-gastroenterological physicians working towards MRCP would find it most helpful and certainly light relief in any revision programme.

P J SHORVON


This is the latest of a popular series describing recent advances in liver disease. It is multi-author, and each year fresh writers are chosen so that chapters do not become stereotyped or stale, and fresh topics may be included.

The present volume covers such subjects as portal hypertension, liver disease and surgery of the gall bladder, bile ducts, and liver. There is even an update by M Sherman on the molecular biology of liver disease. There is also a most welcome chapter, written by K Okuda, covering recent articles on liver disease, published in the Japanese language.

I enjoyed the chapter by R Koretz, entitled ‘Hepatitis – words and music’. With great skill he has incorporated the themes of hepatitis into those of such broadway musicals as Annie get your gun, The King and I, and The sound of Music. This needed considerable ingenuity, review of 377 scientific articles and, presumably, reading librettos of the shows.

J Reichen and R Preisig, in their chapter on cirrhosis, note inter alia the value of third generation cephalosporins to treat systemic infections including bacterial peritonitis. They applaud the coming of age of quantitative tests of liver function.

References are liberal and well chosen, but unfortunately, most of them have been published in 1985 and 1986. Readers, whether general physicians or gastroenterologists, will find that this book gives them a birds eye view of advances in liver disease in a manageable and readable form.

SHEILA SHERLOCK

Books


This is a paperback edition of a hardback book produced in 1985. It includes not only gastrointestinal radiology, but also a sprinkling of upper abdominal ultrasound. Computed tomography and nuclear medicine. The text is organised in a sensible way. A series of questions is attached to a radiograph or a scan on the right hand page, and the answers are then written on the next (left hand) page with a copy of the original images, often annotated with helpful arrows or numbers related to the answer. The images are of uniform high quality with the exception of some of the ultrasound scans (and to a lesser extent, the CT scans) which are frankly showing their age. The questions are or the whole fairly simple. I was slightly irritated by the manner in which the second part of the question would often imply the answer to the first part.

I have few quibbles with the answers to the text and they often give helpful thumb nail sketches of the condition involved. Q4 suggests cobbledstoning is a feature of ileal TB; this is usually considered very rare and a distinguishing feature. I think most people would clear a bile duct of stones at ERCP in a patient with cholangitis rather than just perform a sphincterotomy and hope the stones pass (as is suggested in Q66).

My main problem is in deciding to whom the book should be recommended. Radiologists coming up to FRCR would find the examples too easy and the technique related questions are so basic that they are obviously not aimed at them. I suspect that gastroenterologists in training would find the clinical
Medical Clinic, 317 W Pueblo Street, Santa Barbara, California 93105, USA.

**Metabolic Disorders and Nutrition Related to the Skin**

This symposium organised jointly by the European Society for Dermatological Research and the Netherlands Society of Dermatology and Venereology will be held in Utrecht, the Netherlands from 8–10 March, 1990. For further information please contact: Willem A van Vloten, MD, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Utrecht, Postbox 85500, 3508 GA Utrecht, the Netherlands.

**Course in Gastroenterology**

To be held in Oxford from 7–10 January 1990. Further enquiries are available from Dr D P Jewell, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford OX2 6HE. Tel: 0865–816829.

**American Associations for the Study of Liver Diseases**

Annual postgraduate course: ‘New frontiers in liver disease’, will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, USA, from 28–29 October, 1989, followed by the 40th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases on 30–31 October, 1989. For further information contact: Registration Supervisor, Slack Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086–9447, USA.

**Hopkins Endoscopy Prize**

The Hopkins Prize is offered annually for a paper on any topic relating to endoscopy. Applicants are invited to submit a three page summary of the proposed paper to the Endoscopy Committee of the BSG who will recommend to Council the receipt of the 1990 award. Collaborative work is acceptable but written approval for such entries and for the designated presenter must be provided by all principal contributors to the study. The recipient will present a 15 minute paper at the Spring BSG meeting in Warwick and will receive a prize of £100 and a permanent memento. Applications (four copies) should be submitted to: Dr N Krasner, Department of Medicine, Walton Hospital, Rice Lane, Liverpool L9 1AE. The closing date for entries is 15 DECEMBER, 1989.

**Future BSG Meetings**


**Books received**


