Pediatric Ophthalmology. Edited by David Taylor with Eduard Avetisov, Michael Baraitser, and David Taylor—this is a useful textbook of paediatric gastroenterology and nutrition, but rather represents the direction of the sub-speciality at the current time. The chapters are double spaced, well written and are in the form of presentation.

The opening section of the book deals with the physiology of small bowel dysfunction, particularly malnutrition and the response of the intestine in infancy to the small intestine itself. Although there is little of practical help to the practising paediatrician within these sections, they are well laid out and provide a basic understanding to some of the abnormalities of physiology encountered within malnutrition. The remaining section on small bowel pathologies undertakes chapters on coeliac disease reviewing the current developments in diagnosis, particularly antibody studies such as α-gliadin antibody and the management of the short bowel syndrome. These are, in general, very detailed and essential reading for those interested in these conditions. The difficult subject of food sensitivity is also tackled, although very little practical information can be gleaned from this and, indeed, highlights some of the controversy involved in the subject of food sensitivity at the current time. There is also a very instructive section on pseudo-obstruction and oesophageal dysmotility disorders which are becoming increasingly recognised and form part of the paediatric gastroenterologists' workload. Some of the more relevant and newer developments, particularly within the realms of new drugs, are also tackled within this section, in the book, concentrating on drugs such as omeprazole, cyclosporin, and misoprostol.

There are sections relating to some of the newer enteric infections, which again concentrate predominantly on the pathogenesis and are in the main research based, but do give an understanding of some of the problems associated with the newer pathogens, such as cryptosporidium and also the management of acute infantile diarrhoea. There are some practical recommendations for rehydration, although these are very locally based to the American settings. The issue of biliary disease is also covered, although this forms rather a small section of the book and is not really very much help regarding some of the newer issues within the management of these disorders. Liver disease in infancy is represented by primary sclerosing cholangitis, which is a rare syndrome and I would have felt that some more common paediatric liver disorders would have been of more interest and interest to practising gastroenterologists and paediatric gastroenterologists. Nutrition is represented in this work by cystic fibrosis and some eating disorders in adolescents such as anorexia and bulimia, but the details of these disorders presenting to paediatricians may have been helpful such as obesity.

In summary—this is a book produced by a group of American paediatric gastroenterologists and very much represents their own experiences and research directions. This volume makes fascinating reading and in general is well laid out and well illustrated, although some sections within this volume are presented lose something in black and white. The references, although predominantly American, are also up to date and are numerous. This book represents a very useful guide, particularly to practising paediatricians and paediatric gastroenterologists in the sort of areas that are becoming increasingly important.