even thoughts on genetic engineering in the thalassemias will be of special interest to those engaged in or contemplating work in these areas.

For the paediatric haematologist or someone with a special interest in one of these disorders the book is difficult to lay down. For the general paediatrician there would be a number of gems of information, yet much of the book would be too specialized.


Twelve review articles reprinted from the April and July 1975 issues of Seminars in Hematology have been brought together in a conveniently-sized book of the above title. Those who are familiar with the well-documented style of review article in Seminars in Hematology will know the degree of depth to expect, with around 50 to 150 references per article. The topics selected include a number of 'growing points' in paediatric haematology, e.g. vitamin E deficiency in 'Anemia of prematurity'; intravascular coagulation syndromes in 'The bleeding newborn'; developmental assessment in intrauterine transfusion survivors in 'Rh erythroblastosis fetalis 1975'; home treatment in 'Current concepts in the management of hemophilia'; hypertransfusion in 'The management of thalassemia major'; and liability to pneumococcal and other infections in 'Natural history of sickle cell disease—the first ten years'.

Other articles are almost entirely innovative, namely, 'Antenatal diagnosis of hemoglobinopathies: social and technical considerations' by Nathan and colleagues; 'Inherited defects of platelet function' by Marie Stuart; and 'Metabolism of the erythrocytes of the newborn infant' by Oski. Two unique articles, the like of which cannot be found elsewhere, are especially commendable since they include the fruits of accumulated experience though they would not claim to be innovative. The first of these is entitled 'Hematologic clues to systemic disease in childhood' by Naiman and Bergman and includes photomicrographs of such things as peripheral blood and marrow cells in various storage diseases. The other article, 'The child with lymphadenopathy' by Zuelzer, is relevant to one of the commonest day-to-day problems in paediatrics.

It is clear that this stimulating collection of articles will be of interest to many general paediatricians, neonatologists, and haematologists. It would not claim, of course, to cover the whole field of paediatric haematology.