REVIEWS


The death of Dr. Hugh Thursfield since the third edition was published in 1934 has removed the last of the original editors of this standard work, and one who was also one of the two original editors of the Archives of Disease in Childhood. The connexion with this journal, however, is still a close one, since Dr. Paterson is a member of the editorial committee, and Professor Moncrieff a former editor. With the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, the connexion is even closer, and though a number of other schools are represented, including the Harvard Medical School and the University of Pennsylvania, the volume will continue to be identified to a large extent with the teaching and practice of that hospital. The present edition has been divided into two volumes, and contains many new features, amongst which the sections on vital statistics and administration (Dr. J. A. Charles), growth and development (the late Professor N. Morris), and water and electrolyte control (Professor McN. Scott) are indicative of the various lines along which the science of paediatrics has advanced during recent years. These are included in Part I (General Considerations), whilst Part II deals more specifically with diseases of children, including the neonatal period, tuberculosis, allergy, and diseases of nutrition, metabolism, the ductless glands, the alimentary system, and the upper and lower respiratory tract. Dr. Paterson contributes a section on infant feeding, and Professor N. B. Capon’s section on the newborn calls for special mention as an admirable presentation.

Since such a wide variety of paediatric interests are represented (medical, surgical, dental, biochemical, pathological, genetic, and statistical), it is inevitable that there is some inequality of style and emphasis. But the editorial whip has evidently been cracked to such good effect that a winning team (however oddly assorted in age and pace) has successfully been driven home, dragging behind it triumphantly the first half of the friendly and familiar Great Ormond Street Omnibus. We feel every confidence that the book will long retain its well-deserved popularity.


In this useful monograph, Professor Debré reviews the various clinical, biochemical, and pathological features of polycyrenia, the hepatomegaly occasionally seen in juvenile diabetics, and the type of lipid storage described by the author and Dr. Semelaigne. The possible connexion with cyclical vomiting is discussed. The monograph contains an extensive (though not, as stated by the publisher, a complete) bibliography relating to polycyrenia disease.


The syndrome, known variously by the names of Fanconi, Toni-Fanconi and Debré—Fanconi, is described in detail, and original observations are added. The possible relationship to a disturbance of cystine metabolism is discussed.


Although concerned primarily with the treatment of adults, this book will be of value to all who wish to know the physical methods of treatment available in psychiatry, and their indications and limitations. It is concise, clearly written, and based largely on personal experience. In the chapter on epilepsy a short section is devoted to behaviour problem children.


This catalogue contains a list of eight hundred titles of medical films and details of two hundred; the first is arranged alphabetically and also subdivided into subject groups. Under Paediatrics, some twenty-five films are listed and details are given of eleven of them (basal narcosis, abdominal sympathectomy, treatment of talipes equino-varus, etc.).