

# ARCHIVES OF DISEASE IN CHILDHOOD

INCORPORATING THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF CHILDREN'S DISEASES

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**The Nursing of Sick Children.** By E. M. LOVELY, S.R.N., R.S.C.N., S.R.M. 1951. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. Pp. 120. Price 7s. 6d.

This is a truly delightful book on nursing, such as one does not often meet in these days, when the theoretical side in the nurse's training is frequently over-stressed to the detriment of the teaching and practice of real bedside care.

To quote from Dr. Forest Smith's foreword: 'It is essentially the recounting of the lesson learnt in the ward by a sister who has spent her life in the care of the sick child, in the training of the young nurse, and in helping the children's specialist in the treatment of his cases.'

Every disorder and illness likely to be met with in a children's ward is described in a few words. But Miss Lovely puts all the stress on the special needs, mental and physical, of the child patient and, with a deep understanding of the child, tries to initiate the young student into the art of thorough observation of the symptoms of disease, maladjustment and discomfort, giving simple but excellent suggestions for their nursing treatment and relief by those commonsense measures which the best nurses will always use in their work.

The approach to the sick child is by way of the normal child, and so this book starts with a section on his development. The premature baby is given a special chapter as are the various systems of the body, each of which are dealt with in turn. There is a short discussion of the administration of drugs and the psychological aspect of a nurse's work in the children's ward.

This book cannot be recommended too strongly—there are so few of its kind. One could hand no better to any student taking up the nursing of sick children, and more particularly to the student nurse who comes to spend a short period in the children's department of a general hospital.

**Fever for Nurses.** By GERALD BREEN, M.D., D.P.H. 1950. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. Pp. 220. Price 7s. 6d.

This book is eminently suitable for nurses training for the examination of the Register for Fever Nurses. Writing in a plain and uncomplicated manner, Dr. Breen builds up his text by discussing the fundamentals of fever nursing, elementary bacteriology, immunization, and the principles of the prevention of cross-infection. In the initial chapters, nurses are reminded of the simple measures with which a good practical nurse may bring relief and healing to her patient, whilst the medical aspect of each communicable disease is discussed clearly in separate chapters.

The book has recently been brought up to date to keep abreast with the newest therapeutic developments which have, in the last few years, so completely changed the pattern of the management of infectious fevers.

Owing to a possible over-simplification of both style and approach, the more senior nursing student will, however, prefer to use for study and reference Dr. Breen's book for medical students and practitioners.

**The 1950 Year Book of Pediatrics.** (July, 1949-July, 1950.) Edited by H. G. PONCHER, M.D., with the collaboration of JULIUS B. RICHMOND, M.D. and ISAAC A. ABT, M.D. 1950. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. 104 illustrations. Pp. 504. Price \$5.00.

Last year marked the fiftieth anniversary of this well-known year book, and to observe this occasion each main chapter is preceded by a brief survey, written by an authority, of the achievements of the last 50 years in each particular field. The first of these, on paediatric progress in the United Kingdom, is by the late Sir Leonard Parsons. The rest of the book follows the traditional lines and summarizes the more prominent paediatric papers of the last year.

### Thirteenth British Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

The Congress will be held at Leeds, Yorkshire, on July 8, 9, 10, and 11, 1952.

The subjects for discussion are: Abnormal uterine action in labour; stress incontinence of urine; the place of the paediatrician in a maternity unit; genital tuberculosis in the female.

All communications relating to this Congress should be addressed to the Secretary: B. L. Jeaffreson, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., 32 Park Square, Leeds, 1, England.

### The Sixth International Congress of Pediatrics, Zurich, 1950

The third volume prepared in connexion with the sixth International Congress of Pediatrics, with additional abstracts of lectures and all the communications and discussions, is now complete. It will be sent free of charge to all who paid congress fees entitling them to A or C cards.

Others may obtain either the three single volumes for Swiss francs 25.- or the three volumes bound together for Swiss francs 27.-. The two other volumes comprise summaries of communications, and a guide to the exhibition (with notes on the scientific exhibits). The three volumes constitute the Transactions of the Congress and can be supplied from the **General Secretary's Office, International Pediatric Association, Kinderspital, Zürich 32.**

Payments should be made to the account of the Association with the Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zürich.

A certain number of the transactions of the fifth International Congress of Pediatrics, New York, 1947, may still be obtained from Messrs. Almqvist and Wiksell, Editors, Uppsala, Sweden, for the reduced price of Swedish crowns 10.-