**BOOK REVIEWS**


Many paediatricians on both sides of the Atlantic are concerning themselves more and more with the child's view of the world, and in particular with the ways in which the developing human organism adapts with varying success to his crises and anxieties. When this experiential aspect of child development is studied there are apt to be consequences for the observer of a rather unique and personal kind: the realization that some of the child's problems are still active in ourselves. This is among the most significant of the problems facing contemporary paediatrics. What are the repercussions on training of the need for an awareness of the factors underlying the behaviour of children and the paediatrician's work on himself which this entails? This is one of the major themes of Dr. Winnicott's book.

Together with his three other recent publications (Winnicott, 1957a; 1957b; 1958) this book should be available wherever paediatrics and the training of paediatricians are seriously discussed. Barbara Korsch's admirable summary of the relevant American literature should also be added to this list (Korsch, 1958).

The lucidity and freshness of approach with which Dr. Winnicott writes need no emphasis here. Many of the articles are among the rather rare British contributions to the classics of paediatric psychiatry, e.g. Transitional Objects and Transitional Phenomena.

**REFERENCES**


This useful manual on the growth and development of children is now appearing in its third edition. There have been numerous alterations and almost every chapter has been extensively revised, whilst that on the role of endocrines has been rewritten. The book is aimed at the student wanting to learn and the practitioner, general and paediatric, needing a handy reference book, and as such it is adequate for its purpose. Its range is comprehensive, namely from the newly fertilized gamete to adolescence. Growth is described organ by organ and amply illustrated by figures, charts and graphs; heredity and environment and their inter-relationships are mentioned, and so are energy metabolism and the nutritional needs from all stages of foetal life onwards; endocrine factors, emotional, psychological and behavioural development, each have a chapter, and finally there is a not very useful chapter on abnormal growth. All this in 300 pages! Indeed perhaps too much has been attempted, and some chapters have suffered as a result. Material and many of the graphs, charts and figures have been taken from the literature or borrowed from units throughout the countries on both sides of the Atlantic so that the book makes no pretence of contributing original work. It remains, however, a useful quick book of reference on many aspects of the main themes of growth and development in children.


The topics chosen for the meeting of which this volume represents the proceedings were: blood and plasma fractions; blood and plasma transfusion in paediatrics; and the medico-legal aspects of transfusion. A series of papers and a short discussion on each of these subjects are followed by a miscellaneous collection of papers on other aspects of blood transfusion.

The subjects of the six papers in the paediatric section range from the purely social aspect of erythroblastosis to details of laboratory technique. Had they been more closely linked, a composite picture of German views on exchange transfusion or some other aspect of transfusion in childhood might have emerged; individually, these disparate contributions add little to our knowledge of their subjects, which are already well covered in various standard monographs.

The other sections will be of interest chiefly to those who have to deal with the laboratory aspects of blood transfusion; amongst those papers which are also of clinical interest may be mentioned that of van Loghem and his associates on leucocyte antibodies as a cause of transfusion reactions and a short review (in French) of the problems of platelet transfusion by Eyquem and Maupin.


This work is the edited report of a conference held at the University of Puerto Rico in 1956 and attended by