book there is a list of over 700 references with titles in full
and an index which, though short, appears to function
efficiently.

To the reviewer, an English-style consulting paediatrician without special cardiac training, of average
intelligence but perhaps with difficulties regarding spatial
relationships, this book is a revelation and has led to a
revolution in the understanding of congenital cardiac
disease. Every page and illustration bears evidence of
imaginative effort spent in clarifying and elucidating
problems relating to the action and haemodynamics of
the heart working under abnormal conditions, and step
by step each investigation is made to yield up its logical
contribution to diagnosis. An important contributory
factor to the character of this book is the impeccably
simple and consequently lucid English in which it is
written, which must reflect on both the original Swedish
and on the translation.

The book sticks precisely to its terms of reference and
diagnosis never spills over into prognosis, nor is there
ever a hint that the subtle exposition of morbid anatomy,
physiology and haemodynamics might have a bearing on
treatment. But perhaps it would be greedy to ask for
more: it is a fine book to have to refer to frequently.

Rheumatic Fever: Epidemiology and Prevention. Ed. R.
Cruickshank and A. A. Glynn. (Pp. 193; 26 figs.

In September, 1956, at the invitation of Professor R.
Debré a conference was held at the International
Children’s Centre in Paris under the chairmanship of Dr. David
Rutstein.

Experts from all over the world assembled to discuss
the epidemiology and prevention of rheumatic fever.
This record of the proceedings is arranged in sections,
each of which is introduced by an acknowledged authority
(R. Wahl, P. Hedlund, M. McCarty, E. G. L. Bywaters,
M. Finland, P. Moziconacci and Mlle J. Labesse), and
each is followed by a series of short communications and
a general discussion. Among a large number of distin-
guished delegates Bruce Perry, R. E. O. Williams and
R. Cruickshank represented Great Britain.

This account contains a cross section of international
opinion regarding the bacteriology and immunology of
Group A haemolytic streptococci, including practical
information about the isolation and recognition of these
organisms and their antibodies. This is followed by a
discussion of the epidemiology of streptococcal infections
and their relationship to the development of rheumatic
fever in certain individuals. This leads naturally to
consideration of methods of preventing rheumatic fever.

After an interesting discussion by Finland on changes
in the resistance of bacteria to antibiotics since 1949, a
number of important points were raised. For example,
although sulphonamides are suitable for prophylaxis
of rheumatic fever since they are not bactericidal, they are
quite unsuitable for treatment of streptococcal infections
or for the prevention of first attacks. Penicillin is the
most effective available agent, both for prevention and
control of streptococcal infection. Unfortunately half
the attacks of rheumatic fever occur without any obvious
sore throat and the diagnosis of rheumatic fever is still
largely a matter of clinical judgment and application of
the criteria laid down by Duckett Jones.

The proceedings of the Conference have been trans-
lated and edited by Professor R. Cruickshank and Dr.
A. A. Glynn, who are successful in producing a readable
and well balanced book.

The Artificial Feeding of Normal Infants. By William
EMDIN. (Pp. 113; 3 figs. 16s.) Howard Timmins.
1959.

It is not very long since the artificial feeding of infants
was considered an exact science and books on the subject
were bulky and their formulae complicated. As a
result few students made any serious attempt to under-
stand the problem and many practitioners have been
content to leave it to their nursing associates or advised
mothers to follow the instructions on the tin.

Since then the subject has been simplified and it is
realized that most babies are very tolerant and will
survive on almost anything approaching a normal feed.
There can be no scientific exactitude in a subject where
measurements are in teaspoons which from house to
house vary in size and in how well they are filled.

A new difficulty has arisen, however, in the multi-
plicity of preparations now available for infant feeding
and this book sets out to present 'a simple, practical
feeding scheme applicable to feeding with natural cows’
milk and all types of the proprietary milk products in
common use’. In this it succeeds admirably and the
principles laid down are those generally recognized by
paediatricians as the most satisfactory.

The book is divided into three parts. The first
considers artificial feeding in general, the second
describes the use of the different preparations available,
and the last is an up to date discussion on mixed feeding
and the use of dietary supplements. The subject matter is
clearly and simply presented and there are numerous
valuable tables making for easy reference.

This is a most satisfactory book and one which I have
no hesitation in recommending to students, nurses and
practitioners.

A Manual of Paediatrics for South-East Asia. Edited by
xl+464. Rs. 7.50.) Calcutta: Orient Longmans.
1959.

Although half the world’s children live in the tropics
and sub-tropics, the study of disease problems among
them has been slow to gather momentum. Now,
however, things are changing, and tropical paediatrics is
becoming recognized as a subject worthy of world-wide
study. Courses are being held, Chairs established, a
journal is now flourishing, and finally the text-books have
appeared.

This is the second book to have been published within
the last two years, with two distinguished editors and 55