ARCHIVES OF DISEASE IN CHILDHOOD

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deaths, the advice on perinatal autopsy technique and the
tables of normal measurements found at the end of the
book.
The text is well set out in clear print and is not inter-
rupted by unnecessary detail. Important references are
given at the end of each chapter and there is a complete
index at the end of the book. The illustrations are well
chosen and clear and those of the cardiac malformations
and the whole lung slices are of particular merit.
This book should be included in the libraries of all
paediatric and pathological departments.

Le Syndrome D’Ellis-Van Creveld. Une forme de
dysplasie chondro-ectodermique. By L. Dayer.
(Pp. iv + 59; 18 figs., 4 tables. sFr. 12.50.) Basel
The author has reviewed 33 published cases of the
syndrome (ectodermal dysplasia, polydactyly, chondro-
dysplasia and congenital morbus cordis) and has added
four personal observations showing either the complete
syndrome or variants, e.g. punctate epiphyseal dysplasia.
Of a total of 36 cases regarded as examples of the
syndrome, 11 showed parental consanguinity and 10
belonged to five sibships, including one pair of dizygotic
twins. Recessive inheritance which was postulated
when the three original cases were reported in the
Archives of Disease in Childhood in 1940 appears to be
confirmed. Of the 36 cases reviewed, 18 were boys and
18 girls. The condition has now been described in
children of Jewish, English, Dutch, French, Italian,
Swiss, Turkish, Algerian, Tunisian, Anglo-Irish, coloured
American and mixed parentage. Of the various features
of the syndrome, congenital morbus cordis seems
to be the least constant, being present in only 20 cases,
and ectodermal defects the most constant. The author
points out that the syndrome is one of a number in which
chondral and ectodermal dysplasias coexist, and that
transitional types occur.

Child Development: An International Method Study.
Ed. A. Hottinger and H. Berger. Modern Problems
in Pediatrics, V. Supplement to Annales Paediatrici.
(Pp. ix + 237; 20 figs. sFr. 50.-) Basel/New York:
The reviewer is in the embarrassing position of being
asked to write a testimonial for a favourite son and seven
grandchildren. Nevertheless, he feels gratified at being
able to commend this quite remarkable achievement of
an international study which, fostered by the Inter-
national Children’s Centre in Paris, derived from the
Child Study Centre in London, a product of collaboration
between the University’s Institutes of Education and
Child Health. Nine chapters set out the history of the
coordinated studies, the general considerations and lines
of work, followed by three important sections on the
social, psychological and physical (somatic) investiga-
tions. A chapter on the special aspects of the problem
in under-developed countries, and another on the effects
of malnutrition on growth, takes the study out of Europe
into West and East Africa. Dr. Faulkner’s own, slightly
different, present work in Louisville, Kentucky, marks
the spread of the collaboration to the New World. An
appendix of 100 pages gives some idea of the complexity
of the data collected by reproducing the various forms
in use. A study of these shows how necessary is the
final chapter in the body of the volume on the practical
problem of recording and analysing the completed
schedules. Indeed the difficulties of getting corre-
sonding growth studies started in eight centres seem
small compared with the rapidly growing problem of
what to do with the material collected. This is a valuable
contribution to paediatric literature and an essential
guide book for those embarking on growth and develop-
ment studies. The whole text is in English, well pre-
sented and the volume beautifully produced. Professor
Robert Delbré contributes a characteristically charming
foreword.

Kinderheilkunde: Diagnostik-Therapie, Prophylaxe. By
Erwin Grundler and Gerhard Seiger. (Pp. 846,
848 figures. DM. 29.-) Stuttgart: Hippokrates-
This is a beautifully bound and printed synopsis of
children’s diseases, written in a telegraphic style. The
synopsis includes a little on normal development, gives
physiological values, describes infant feeding and the
various immunizing procedures before the systematic
description of the illnesses in childhood. It ends with
a chapter of over 100 pages which gives an alphabetical
list of all drugs used at present (and in the past), together
with all the available proprietary preparations, giving
doses, methods of administration, indications, mode of
action and side-effects. For a synopsis the book is too
voluminous. It would gain a great deal by drastic
pruning of out-dated material. For example, it treats
syphilis with arsenic and bismuth, advises deep x-ray
therapy for hyperplasia of the thymus in infants and
devotes a chapter to thymus lymphatics. On the
aetiology of infantile diarrhoea the concepts of exudative
and neuropathic diathesis are still maintained and its
dietary management is equally antiquated. Bed-
wetting should not be treated by corporal punishment,
but the example of good children should be constantly
kept in front of the offender; favourite foods and other
pleasures should be denied until the offenders mend
their ways. One could give a long list of such quaint ideas.
In summary this book includes all that is new without
having discarded much from the past which is no longer
tenable.