

found among Mongols and Tatars, and has nothing to do with the clinical condition of mongolism. The term 'Mongolian Idiocy' should certainly now be abandoned since, as Ford himself points out, most of these children are of imbecile level. Also, tuberculosis is no longer very common later in childhood among children with mongolism. This edition went to press too soon to record the interesting new developments in regard to chromosome constitution.

Dr. Ford has done a great service to neurology. His book is an essential work of reference in this and related fields. It will continue to be of great assistance to the practitioner, the teacher and the research worker. The English is lucid and simple.

**Infant Foods and Feeding Practice.** By HERMAN FREDERIC MEYER. (Pp. 360; 14 figs. 78s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas; Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1960.

This book, by a Chicago paediatrician, who is Associate Professor of Paediatrics at North-Western University Medical School, is most refreshing. Written by one with a long experience of routine well-baby care as well as hospital and domiciliary paediatric practice, it is the successor of 'Essentials of Infant Feeding for Physicians' which was well known in the United States a few years ago. In this volume the author has emphasized and amplified those sections of the original book which proved most popular and helpful, and the title of the book has been appropriately changed.

The theory and practice of dietetics in the first year of life, including the newborn period, are thoroughly reviewed and discussed in a very satisfying, often humorous, down-to-earth manner by one who has clearly had a great deal of experience, not only with patients but also with parents, doctors and students.

Breast feeding and its present position in paediatric practice in the United States and many other countries are fully and objectively considered, though the management of the numerous minor breast disturbances which frequently arise in the puerperium, and often unnecessarily lead to weaning, has received too little attention. The author deplores the fact that in the United States only 20% of babies are now being breast fed on discharge from maternity hospital, but he is encouraged by a reversal of this regrettable trend in the better educated sections of the community, such as university graduates.

Artificial feeding has been reviewed from its evolutionary aspect leading to the contemporary swing back of the pendulum to more fundamental, simpler methods, and the somewhat confused American scene with its 73 varieties of artificial infant foods has been arranged and coordinated into a rational picture.

The various food elements, proteins, fats, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins, are considered in their modern context and many points which are new in a book on infant feeding attract the reader.

The section on mixed feeding is also a happy blend of the modern scientific approach and practical wisdom and experience and it is gratifying to find that the author, like most of the leading American and British paedia-

tricians, sees no indication for introducing mixed feeding until the third or fourth month in the average infant, though it is rightly stressed that in this form of feeding, as in milk feeding, there are great individual variations.

The last chapter 'Clinical Trivia and Philosophic Observations in an Every-Day Feeding Practice' is an entertaining and intensely practical account of common misconceptions and minor problems. It will be particularly useful for students and young paediatricians and general practitioners in whose eyes some of these minor problems often loom large and may be very disturbing.

The 200 references will prove valuable for those who wish to pursue various points further. Although written for American paediatric practice this book will prove equally welcome and valuable in this and other English-speaking countries, for the basic principles of dietetics in infancy are similar everywhere.

**Neue Paediatrische Urologie.** By ERICH ZAPP. Beiheft zum Archiv fuer Kinderheilkunde, 40. Heft. (Pp. 142; illustrated.) Stuttgart: Ferdinand Enke Verlag. 1960.

In the foreword the author states that this little book is written for paediatricians in order to acquaint them with recent developments in paediatric urology. The main emphasis is on diagnosis; therapy and operations are only briefly mentioned.

The English reader will find this little monograph too short to be of much value to paediatricians; but it may be of some use to undergraduates and practitioners. It appears to be a little out of date; although written in 1960, many of the advances in paediatric urology during the last decade are not mentioned.

The first chapter contains brief descriptions of paediatric urology and diagnostic methods. It seems strange that x-ray cinematography and studies with the image intensifier, which have done so much to unravel some of the confusion surrounding paediatric urological conditions are not described at all, and that the micturating cysto-urethrogram, which is perhaps the most important of all radiological investigations in childhood, receives only scant mention.

Of the succeeding chapters, some, like the one on urinary infections and stone formation in the urinary tract, are very adequate, others, like the one on megareters, ectopia vesicae, bladder neck obstruction and the neurogenic bladder, are somewhat out of date, especially when the treatment and indication for treatment are discussed.

It is, of course, difficult to compress such large and rapidly expanding subjects into a few pages, but it is not easy to understand why some extremely rare conditions like atresia of the urethra and congenital elephantiasis of the penis are described in some detail, and why some common lesions like phimosis and incompletely descended testicles are only very briefly mentioned.

The author has written a most readable and concise little monograph based on a comparatively small series of cases. The results mentioned in this book do not quite come up to those published by the larger Paediatric