

simply with his subject matter from twins, genes and the sex chromosomes, to the inheritance of height, build and intelligence. Gene mutations, genetic predisposition and congenital deformities are examined and illumined and there is a final chapter on eugenics.

To the few practising geneticists this book will contain little new, but to the average seeker after knowledge a lot is explained in a small compass. Obviously much remains in the field of genetics for which an adequate explanation is not yet available, but what is known is faithfully dealt with and Dr. Carter is to be congratulated on his successful attempt to make what might be a difficult subject intelligible to the uninformed.

Problèmes posés par L'Incompatibilité Rh Foeto-Maternelle. By ANDRE JOUVENCEAUX and DENISE MICHAUD. (Pp. 213; 26 figures + 28 tables. 26 NF.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1961.

This is a slim, handy volume, well printed and well produced. The authors review the problems of rhesus incompatibility in an admirably concise and practical manner.

The chapters are usefully set out in the form of replies to various problems posed by the different aspects of rhesus incompatibility. This common-sense approach is matched by the simple and clear writing. Nevertheless, the subject is treated in considerable detail, the one thing missing that might profitably have been included being some statistics of incidence of the rhesus negative and similar blood groups from various parts of the world and of blood incompatibility as a problem.

The references are up to date, international and comprehensive.

The Pathology of the Tumours of Children. (Pathological Monographs Number Two.) By RUPERT A. WILLIS. (Pp. ix + 200; 80 figures. 42s.) Edinburgh and London: Oliver and Boyd. 1962.

This is the second volume of a series of Pathological Monographs, edited by Sir Roy Cameron and G. Payling Wright, that are designed to present comprehensive reviews of subjects of particular interest at the present time. Professor Willis's contribution very well fulfils that aim. It provides a large and well-chosen bibliography that adequately covers the literature on tumours of children. But it is much more than a review of the literature. As in all his written work, the author draws upon his own vast experience in the field of oncology, and quotes many illustrative cases from his own collection, and from the Manchester Children's Tumour Registry and the Tumour Reference Section of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, with both of which he is intimately connected. The book therefore bears the stamp of authority that can come only from the first-hand experience of the writer; and when controversial points are raised, the author's opinions are given in his usual refreshingly forthright manner.

The earlier chapters deal with the types of neoplasm that are commonest in, and most nearly peculiar to,

children: those of nervous tissues, the embryonic tumours of particular organs and the teratomas. A useful section follows on tumours arising in hamartomas and in vestigial and ectopic tissues. Tumours of haemopoietic tissues are sometimes briefly discussed. In the later chapters those of bone and other mesenchymal tissues, those of the endocrine organs and gonads, the relatively rare epithelial cancers, and some miscellaneous and controversial tumours, some probably not true neoplasms, are reviewed. A wide field is thus covered in this small volume which is illustrated by many photomicrographs in black and white. It does not give detailed descriptions of histological characters, some knowledge of which in the reader is obviously presupposed. The author's style is clear and concise and eminently pleasant to read. The printing is good and almost free from misprints, and reproduction of the illustrations is excellent.

Otitis del Lactante. (*Boletín de la Sociedad Valenciana de Pediatría, Valencia.* May 1962.) (Pp. 195; illustrated.) Valencia: Sociedad Valenciana de Pediatría. 1962.

This paper-back book of 195 pages records the proceedings of a meeting of the Paediatric Society of Valencia which was held in May 1962. The subject was otitis in infancy and there were eight contributors who covered authoritatively the statistical, morphological, clinical and otological aspects, the overall effects of otitis in infancy, methods of prevention and the current medical and otological treatment recommended. The final chapter records the discussion which followed the papers. There are some excellent full-page replicas of the slides which accompanied the lectures; these help considerably in understanding the text. Also, as an offset to the photographs of the contributors, which appear at the beginning of their papers, there are some excellent pre- and post-treatment photographs of infants.

The subject is covered exhaustively and the paper on the varying symptomatology of infantile otitis by Dr. Lola Gallego is particularly valuable. The only notable omission is the references, which the contributors say may be obtained from them on request; it would have added to the usefulness of this volume if they could have been included.

The book is well produced and the text easy to read. The publication within six months of the meeting is an achievement of which the Society and the publishers may be proud.

Orthopädische Fragen in der Pädiatrie. Postgraduate Courses in Pediatrics, vols. 5-6. Edited by E. Rossi. (Pp. ii + 110; 76 figures. SFr. 19.00.) Basel and New York: S. Karger. 1963.

Volume 5/6 of this attractive journal is devoted to a refresher course in paediatric orthopaedics. The six papers are well illustrated and give a fair summary of present-day opinion. The papers on congenital dis-