children's hospital and department. It will not replace
Ford but it is a useful supplement and a not inconsiderable
competitor.

1636; 471 figures + 144 tables. 126s.) Philadelphia

Years of ownership of successive editions of 'Griffith-
Mitchell' and later 'Nelson' (usually of two copies, one at
home and one at hospital), and the countless times your
reviewer has turned to the book to look up facts, has
gradually engendered in him a profound admiration
for its qualities. These qualities are the comprehensive
covering of the subject, so that it is rare not to find what one needs
in the index; the balanced presentation of difficult,
obscure, or controversial subjects; the intelligent choice of
relatively few but key references; the remarkably uniform
and effective literary style, terse without being staccato;
and the 'up-to-dateness' made possible by a new edition
every five years or so. The editor's ability to impose
these qualities on all 85 contributors is indeed marvellous.

The new (8th) edition will certainly maintain the richly
deserved success of its predecessors.

Practical Paediatric Problems. By James A. Hutchison.
(Pp. xii + 514; 87 figures + 5 tables. 50s.) London:

On setting out to write a textbook, the author's first rule
should be to keep clearly in mind who his readers are
going to be, and whom he is aiming to instruct. It is
almost impossible to write effectively for more than one
class of reader at once, but Professor Hutchison has
aimed at doing so. He states that his intention was to
produce a book intermediate in size between the usual
undergraduate text and the large work of reference, yet
covering the problems of the paediatrician and the family
doctor. In the event he has written a textbook, parts of
which are sufficiently detailed to be of use to the paedia-
trician (e.g. the clearly explained biochemistry of the
metabolic disorders) but most of which is likely to be more
valuable for the paediatric house officer or postgraduate
student with some previous knowledge of paediatrics.
Surely it is not a family doctor's book, for the author has
purposely omitted so much that would be of importance
for him? There is no section on the common infectious
fevers, skin diseases or ear and eye disorders, and the word
'worms' does not appear in the index. No account of the
normal child and how to assess deviation from normal
development is included.

With these reservations, the book is carefully planned
and well written. The word 'Practical' in the title is
justified by the attention to detail in describing methods of
diagnosis and treatment, including dosage of drugs. This
is usually given on a bodyweight basis, though occasion-
ally the dose recommended aims to ignore the age and
size of the child, e.g. morphine gr. 1/6 (10 mg.) as part of
the treatment of left ventricular failure in acute nephritis.

The metabolic and endocrine disorders are described
with a clarity that is unusual in general textbooks of
paediatrics. Enough biochemistry is included to explain
the errors involved without drowning the reader in a sea
of complex formulae. The advice on infant feeding is
brief and reflects the author's individual views on the
subject, which are easy to follow. The chapter on
emotional disorders is the least valuable and perhaps
reflects an outdated approach in dealing mainly with such
toys as thumb-sucking, nail-biting, and masturbation,
which most paediatricians regard as relatively unimpor-
tant matters compared with the rest.

The illustrations are all well chosen and clear.

There is little doubt that Professor Hutchison has
produced a book that will establish itself firmly amongst
the several other British paediatric textbooks, but one
cannot help regretting that he did not undertake the much
needed full work of reference.

Praxis der Antibiotikatherapie im Kindesalter ihre
Anwendung. Edited by Walter Marget and Malte
Kienitz. (Pp. xi + 296; 37 figures + 39 tables.

As the present fashion, this book is based on a sympos-
ium on modern trends and practice of chemotherapy in
childhood. Organized by the editors, who are senior
members of the medical staffs in the paediatric depart-
ments of the Universities of Tutbingen and Miinster,
it was held at Reutlingen in South West Germany. In
addition to contributions by 22 participants the book also
includes relevant observations made during discussion.
Skilful editing has by these means stressed controversial
aspects and allowed differences of opinion to become
evident where dogmatic statements might have incurred
lively criticism.

No doubt dictated partly by the individual experience
of the contributors and their special fields of interest, the
topics in this treatise range somewhat haphazardly over
more general subjects in the nature of the 'basis of
antibiotic treatment'—antibiotics, steroids, y-globulins;
synergism and antagonism in infectious diseases; and
'The effect of chemotherapy on micro-organisms' to the
more detailed exposition of the treatment of infections
caused by specific organisms such as streptococcal
diseases, tuberculosis, pertussis, listeriosis, toxoplasmosis,
leptospiroses, and mycoses. Some contributors
approached the main theme from a different angle by
discussing the infections of particular organ systems.
Thus the therapy of respiratory disorders, throat, nose,
and ear infections, and diseases of the urinary and
alimentary tracts are dealt with according to the organ
system involved. Other authors preferred to expound
their views on selected disease entities of varying aetiology
such as purulent meningitis, osteomyelitis, septicemia,
and bacterial endocarditis. We were astonished to find
that in the management of meningococcal meningitis
Friedericisk recommends penicillin as the only drug to be
given in maximal doses, i.e. 1 mega unit per kg. body
weight per day to infants and 500,000 units/kg. body
weight per day to older children and disregards completely
the sulphonamides, a view that is not generally shared in
this country. However, his results seemed to be very