

comes that discuss in detail their various changes reported in the literature with useful tables, many illustrations both clinical and chromosomal, and clear chromosomal diagrams. There is a good chapter on trisomy 8 mosaicism, accurately defined only since the introduction of chromosome banding, of which some 35 cases had been reported to the end of 1975. Among the structural chromosome changes, of nine duplications in the long arm of chromosome 7, three involve the same segment, another three a different segment, two involve yet another, and the remaining two are unique; while the twelve duplications in the short or long arm of chromosome 11 are nearly all unique, as are the four deletions in its long arm. In the case of each chromosome, information on the genes it carries is also given so that one is reminded of one of the applications of these chromosome studies, namely deletion mapping which can tell where some genes are not sited.

Both for its practical value in diagnosing and counselling, and for its theoretical potential, the study of specific chromosome deletions and duplications is important and this book is recommended as one that documents and summarizes well the situation at present. It also serves by pointing to the many gaps in information and knowledge, and by indicating the details of study, clinical, chromosomal, and chemical, which are ideally necessary in order to make useful contributions to this expanding field of applied human genetics.

P. E. POLANI

**Atlas des Maladies Chromosomiques.** By Jean de Grouchy and Catherine Turleau. (Pp. 356; illustrated. Fr.F. 273.50.) Expansion Scientifique: Paris. 1977.

Seven years ago syndromes associated with chromosome abnormalities consisted of less than a dozen fairly well defined entities. Since then the development of banding techniques has allowed much greater finesse, and partial monosomies and trisomies have been described for almost every chromosome. This book is an attempt to gather the reports of single cases that are scattered throughout the literature and to prepare a systematic outline of the clinical findings associated with each chromosome.

True to its title of 'Atlas', the book's layout is comprehensive and orderly. Each chromosome is initially considered briefly under the subheadings of morphology,

evolution, and position of specific gene loci on that chromosome. The clinical features of the various reported anomalies are then given in full detail and illustrated profusely with photographs; the appropriate references are listed. Appendices describe cytogenetic techniques and nomenclature, dermatoglyphics, and the definitions of facial features that characterize the chromosomally abnormal individual.

The book's chief drawback is the rate at which it will become outdated. Although it includes references up to 1976, some descriptions are based on few reported cases and it is inevitable that new reports will show further variations in clinical features. The gene localization field is also expanding rapidly. Even though so much is pictorial and diagrammatic the fact that the *Atlas* is written in French is a hindrance to English readers, though an English translation is being produced. More important is the attitude taken in the introductory section which assumes that all major advances in cytogenetics have come from French laboratories; no such bias is shown in the selection of cases presented, which have been drawn from all nationalities.

Overall the *Atlas* is a useful compendium and will prove interesting to the paediatrician or cytogeneticist who expects to see patients with complicated chromosome abnormalities at regular and not too infrequent intervals.

CAROLINE BERRY

#### **Children, the Environment and Accidents.**

Edited by R. H. JACKSON. (Pp. x+164; illustrated + tables. £2.95.) Pitman Medical: London. 1977.

Paediatricians, collectively, have taken little interest in accidents and their prevention. It seems paradoxical that we should categorize the commonest cause of death in our patients as outside our brief. This book may help us to become involved; it provides an outline of accidents in childhood, and some more detailed accounts of selected and specific issues. It is a record of the 1976 Newcastle Conference of the Medical Commission on Accident Prevention, with 15 contributors on three main themes: traffic, home and play, planning and prevention. Inevitably, there is a wide range of style and content, from commonplace generalizations to over specific minutiae, with some repetition. Its achieved intentions, to educate, to arouse interest and to

attempt change, outweigh these disadvantages. If purchased, it will probably be the only book on this subject in most paediatric libraries.

The introductory chapter from Dr. Jackson, the editor, is exemplary: facts and figures are presented, and his conclusions and comments are readable and relevant. The Norman Capener Lecture, describing the impressive reduction in accidental deaths in Sweden, and the methods used by their accident prevention committee gives significance to the rest of the book. The painstaking and somewhat pedestrian papers from some contributors, with conclusions sometimes hardly more than truisms, nonetheless describe the means by which children can be saved from unnecessary injury. This subject may lack glamour, but its importance is undeniable, and this book is a valuable introduction.

J. PARTRIDGE

**Breast Feeding and the Mother.** Edited by KATHERINE ELLIOTT. (Pp. 280; illustrated + tables. US \$20.95 cloth; \$11.50 paper.) Ciba Foundation Symposium 45 (new series). Excerpta Medica: Amsterdam. 1976.

Dr. Katherine Elliott of the Ciba Foundation has produced a superb volume as the result of a symposium of international experts held in March 1976. The main papers included the physiology of lactation and the effects of lactation on reproduction, a new mother's anxieties and her concept of herself, and the importance of early contact between mother and infant. The place of education in encouraging mothers to breast feed was considered and there were contributions on the social consequences of cultural attitudes to breast feeding in both developed and developing countries.

This balanced volume contains the most recent information available presented concisely. An enormous amount of material is given in an interesting and readable form and there are extensive references and a comprehensive index. The discussion which followed each of the main papers of the symposium has been included. This device enables the reader to see several opinions on a controversial issue, and has given the editor an opportunity to include additional work, for example an indication of the recent WHO collaborative studies. The psychological aspects of breast feeding are discussed fully but an additional

chapter on the management of common physical breast feeding problems would have been helpful. Those who attended this symposium were realists as well as enthusiasts and many of the conclusions will be of practical help to paediatricians.

This book is the most up-to-date review of this important subject and a copy will be needed in every medical library. The demand for borrowing it is likely to be so great that it would be advisable for you to buy a copy yourself.

H. B. VALMAN

#### **Infant Feeding and Feeding Difficulties.\***

5th edition. By Ronald Mac Keith and Christopher Wood. (Pp. 342; illustrated + tables. £5.95.) Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh, London, New York. 1977.

'Mac Keith and Wood' now in its fifth edition provides as it has consistently done, clear information for doctors and nurses about the needs of normal babies and the many feeding problems presented by abnormality. It explains the standards of growth and the techniques and strategies in dealing with small or over-large babies, those who vomit or are unable to utilize their food; it has a useful chapter by Brian Wharton on protein-energy deficiency syndromes. It serves mothers, not by being suitable for them but by explaining to their doctors what they should be aware of, including the need for unflinching compassion for the mother.

The modifications for the new edition, which is scarcely longer than the last, reflect items of recent concern in paediatrics: hypernatraemia, obesity, intravenous feeding, pyloric stenosis, coeliac disease, and food intolerances. More is said, proportionately, in favour of breast feeding. The 100 new references have not displaced enough of the enjoyable but sometimes indiscriminate quotations from the classics of all ages. To give two examples: Harold Waller's recommendation of 20 mg stilboestrol for engorgement was soon found to be unwise; and a diagram still implies that milk secretion varies from day to day with the number of babies fed. Budin, the authority cited, cannot have believed this for his unhappy wet-nurses in Paris at the turn of the century were made to feed other people's babies 34 times a day but to give boiled cows' milk to their own. Others should not be led to believe the diagram now. In the next edition there should be more fear of underfeeding in the breast fed and more

detail about the deficiencies which small babies are at risk of suffering because they start with so little.

MAVIS GUNTHER

\*Dr. Ronald Mac Keith died on 30 October 1977. His first paper in the *Archives* appeared in December 1939; his last contribution was a book review in our September 1977 issue. He made many notable contributions to developmental paediatrics, child psychiatry, and the care of handicapped children. Up to the time of his death he was Senior Editor of *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*, a distinguished companion to the *Archives*. R.R.

**Ethics of Newborn Intensive Care.** Edited by ALBERT R. JONSEN and MICHAEL J. GARLAND. (Pp. 196; illustrated + tables. US \$4.00.) University of California: Berkeley. 1976.

It is not possible to engage in the intensive care of the newborn infant without encountering painful ethical problems to which agreed solutions are not available. Is the clinician more justified in maintaining the life of an individual whose existence, he believes, can only be a painful burden, or in discontinuing treatment without being able to share the responsibility with the individual most concerned? To what extent is he justified in using new, potentially dangerous methods of treatment or investigation? When it comes to decisions affecting the distribution of resources, the ethical problems involve society as a whole. This short book contains some very thoughtful papers as well as detailed discussion of illustrative cases which bring up many of the problems faced by the staff of every intensive care neonatal unit. It is a useful thought-provoking book, an aid to clear thought, and not dogmatic.

L. B. STRANG

**Developmental Paediatrics. Perspectives and Practice.** By K. S. HOLT. (Pp. ix + 311; illustrated + tables. £5.50.) Butterworth: London. 1977.

Pioneers and authorities have a duty to relate their experience, express their ideas, teach their skills. Professor Holt, the first professor of developmental paediatrics in this country, is a pioneer and an authority and we welcome his book. Its publication is particularly apt when the Court Report is fresh in our minds and we are exploring its recommendations about develop-

mental assessment, who should do the work, and how they should be trained.

This book is not just a practical manual nor is it an exhaustive treatise, but as a report of the outlook, experience, and practice of one man it does contain something of value and interest to most people involved in child developmental work. After a short chapter on brain growth, the basis of development, three chapters are devoted to descriptions of the behaviour of children at various ages. An important if superficial chapter bringing together some theories of child development, Gesell, Piaget, and psychoanalytical is followed by chapters on the development of the special senses, motor skills, and language, and practical details of examination methods. The final chapters give further practical advice on the work and apparatus of a developmental paediatrician and the value of a developmental approach in helping handicapped children and their parents.

Though there is some repetition and some tantalizingly superficial comments, the references after each chapter are good and this is a useful book. It is clearly appropriate reading for all paediatricians, whatever the stage of their training, and will be a valuable source of reference for anyone doing child health clinics.

J. M. PARKER

#### **Childhood Diabetes and its Management**

By Oman Craig. (Pp. 265; illustrated + tables. £8.50.) Postgraduate Paediatric Series. Butterworth: London. 1977.

This is an excellent book: the personal recommendations of one man based on his considerable experience in the management of diabetic children. It gives detailed instructions on exactly what to do for a child with diabetic ketoacidosis and on the organization of an outpatient diabetic clinic. Side by side with such practical aspects of the management of childhood diabetes are chapters on insulin and intermediary metabolism, thoughts on the aetiology of diabetes and on diabetic complications, and comments on emotional disturbances among diabetic children. In each section there is a well-balanced review of the current literature followed by the personal opinion of the author on how he manages a particular situation. His views are illustrated by suitably colourful Glaswegian case histories.

At the end of the section dealing with