

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 this 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. PARSONS

#### **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