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


'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 unfailing compassion for the mother.

The modifications for the new edition, which is scarcely longer than the last, reflect items of recent concern in paediatrics: hyperleucocytosis, 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.


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


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 developmental assessment, who should do this work, and how they should be trained.

This book is not just a practical manual: it is an exhaustive treatise, based on a report of the outlook, experience, and practice of one man in what can only be one of the most important contributions to the health of children. The book is divided into three sections: the first chapter is devoted to the behaviour of children at various ages. This is 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.

There is much repetition and some tantalizingly superficial comments. In general, the references after each chapter are good and this is a useful book. It is clearly an 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. Park


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
the interpretation of glucose tolerance
tests Dr. Craig concludes, 'I am of an
optimistic turn of mind'—this vitality
and optimism pervades the text and makes it
teresting and uplifting reading. It is
not an idealized account of the manage-
ment of diabetes; it presents the state of
the art as it exists today with all its
imperfections.

This short personal textbook runs to
256 pages. It will serve admirably both as
a handbook for junior paediatric staff
and as a most useful textbook for anyone
setting up or reorganizing their diabetic
clinic. It should be an essential bench
book for all paediatric departments.

J. D. BAUM

Leukemia and Lymphoma in the Nervous
System. Edited by Carl Pochedly.
(Pp. 229; illustrated + tables; US
$23.50.) Thomas: Springfield, Illinois.
1977.

There has been recently a cluster of mon-
ographs about childhood leukaemia; two
of them have been edited by Dr. Pochedly.
This book is different in that it is devoted
exclusively to leukaemia and lymphoma in
the nervous system. It is intended for
clinicians and haematologists.

A survey of the clinical features of
central nervous system (CNS) involve-
ment includes a useful chapter on nonlym-
phocytic leukaemia. There follow two
repetitive chapters about the patho-
genesis of CNS leukaemia. A whole
chapter is devoted to cytocentrifugation
and another one to how to look at the
resultant preparation. In a review of the
complications of treatment and prophyl-
axis there is, astoundingly, no detailed
mention of other neurological problems
such as viral encephalitis which can be
hard to distinguish from radiation-
metotrexate encephalopathy. A discus-
ion of the important question of CNS
involvement in lymphoma is confined to
experience from one institution. These are
surprising omissions; yet the book as a
whole is repetitive and padded with large
diagrams which do little to clarify the
text.

Those who are actively involved in
management of leukaemia and lymp-
phoma will get more help from the current
literature than from this book.

JUDITH CHESSELS

Diagnostic Radiology in Paediatrics. By
384; illustrated. £29.50.) Postgraduate
Paediatrics Series. Butterworth: Lon-
don. 1977.

With the expansion of that ‘bible’ of
paediatric radiology, Caffey's well-known
textbook, into multiple volumes the need
for a shorter work on this subject is clear.
The authors have attempted to provide
this with a reasonably concise text (365
pages plus the index), including a wealth
of excellent illustrations printed on good
quality paper. The contents have been
selected according to the type of work
that presents at the Bristol Royal Hospital
for Sick Children, with an undoubted
emphasis on the authors' special interests,
notably in cardiology, bone tumours, and
skeletal dysplasias.

The book is aimed at paediatricians and
radiologists at both trained and trainee
levels. It is divided into 9 sections, each
ending with a list of selected references.
The first two deal with skeletal dysplasias
and tumours and tumour-like lesions in
bone; then follow sections on each main
system of the body, ending with an
interesting chapter on growth and develop-
ment as shown by radiology. Wisely,
clinical descriptions have been kept to a
minimum and emphasis confined to the
radiological aspects. The section on the
cardiovascular system is excellently
comprehensive but perhaps out of propor-
tion to the rest of the work (it comprises 72
pages in comparison to 38 pages each on
the respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts).
Maybe angiocardiographic findings should
have been omitted from a concise text-
book.

Inevitably, some of the views expressed
are not those of the reviewer. However,
the authors are to be congratulated on
having produced a work that should
impart much valuable knowledge to its
intended public. It is a book that can be
recommended warmly; let us hope that the
high price does not inhibit sales.

R. ASTLEY