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.*


'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: hyperammonaemia, 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

Childhood Diabetes and its Management.


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 the 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 particularly difficult 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 entertaining and uplifting reading. It is not an idealized account of the management 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


There has been recently a cluster of monographs 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) involvement includes a useful chapter on nonlymphocytic leukaemia. There follow two repetitive chapters about the pathogenesis 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 prophylaxis there is, astoundingly, no detailed mention of other neurological problems such as viral encephalitis which can be hard to distinguish from radiation-methotrexate encephalopathy. A discussion 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 lymphoma will get more help from the current literature than from this book.

JUDITH CHESSELS


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 development 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 proportion 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 textbook.

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