reviewed in these columns by a usually stern critic in 1977. Those hoping for a second edition of the same high standard will not be disappointed. Four of the original 23 contributors have bowed out and 17 new authorities have been recruited; there are 10 extra chapters, though fewer than 30 pages more. There has been some pruning but the writing is succinct, immensely well documented as before, and remarkably even. Again most chapters deal with a single organism and the new ones, which had bare mention before and now get a chapter to themselves, include chlamydia; viruses uncommonly associated with infection at this period (such as the Epstein-Barr virus, the rabies, and the respiratory syncytial virus); and some protozoan and helminth infections which apart from ascaris and *Trichomonas vaginalis* are rarely found in Europe and North America.

Aside from *Staphylococcus aureus* and its associated illnesses and diarrhoeal disease; bacterial infections which were perhaps rather underrepresented in the first edition in one long chapter are now split into six. The first deals with sepsis and meningitis; the next three with infections of the respiratory and urinary tracts, bones, and joints; and the fifth with focal infections. Another single organism that might be described as the United States' infectious perinatal cause célèbre of recent years—the group B streptococcus—is covered separately. Two other chapters on obstetric factors associated with infections of the fetus and newborn infant and on control of infection acquired in the nursery also appear for the first time. The chapter on immunology, with new authors, has been completely rewritten; this reviewer found that difficult subject easier to read and digest than in the first edition and more relevant to day to day clinical practice.

There is no book to challenge Remington and Klein in breadth of coverage and authority on the subject of fetal and neonatal infections wherever in the world these may occur. This second edition is an essential work of reference for anyone concerned with the subject. The only fact to be lamented is that in just 7 years the price has nearly trebled.

PAMELA A DAVIES

Coeliac Disease. By W T Cooke and G K T Holmes. Pp 281: £30.00 hardback. Edinburgh, London, New York: Churchill Livingstone, 1984.

Two physicians write authoritatively about their experience in adults but less authoritatively about other people's recorded experience of the disease in children. For example one may gain the wrong impression that while the incidence of post-biopsy jejunal perforation in adults is 0/5000 (at least in the hands of the authors using their own suction capsule) in children it may be as high as 6/51. The infant and child are awarded only two columns in an otherwise excellent chapter on clinical manifestations in which the more and the less common adult presentations are discussed and exemplified.

Perhaps we are equally guilty of forgetting adult aspects of childhood disorders. In coeliac disease as in cystic fibrosis, inflammatory bowel disease, and chronic liver disorders there is a need for long term follow up of our patients into adult life. Nothing exemplifies this better than the question of malignancy in coeliac disease. Our efforts to ensure compliance with the diet, even in adolescence, are largely based on the belief that withdrawing gluten lowers the risk of lymphoma. In an excellent chapter on malignancy the authors point to the lack of proof that this is so. Only a study of cases treated from childhood will resolve the issue.

The chapters on history, pathology, and immunology are thorough, well referenced, and reason enough for urging one's general library to buy Cooke and Holmes. A chapter on diagnostic investigations is a good account of effete tests and the final chapter on aetiology shows how little progress we have made in the 33 years since Dicke wrote his MD thesis. The book is well written and illustrated throughout, and is good value. In contentious areas the authors are discursive rather than didactic. For example they quote various regimens of gluten challenge but make no recommendations. In practice the kind of question to which one most frequently seeks an immediate answer is 'Can I drink Blogg's home brew?' or 'is Cherub's Delight safe?'. To answer these you will need to obtain the Coeliac Society's biennial list of proprietary foods as well as Cooke and Holmes.

M S TANNER

Metabolic Disease. A Guide to Early Recognition. By R M Cohn and K S Roth. Pp 442: £34.75 hardback. Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W B Saunders, 1983.

Any paediatrician with an interest in meta-

bolism, normal and abnormal, will enjoy reading this book. In the preface the authors declare that their intention was to make the presumptive diagnosis of metabolic disease as clinical an endeavour as possible to avoid the average paediatrician's 'discomfiture with biochemistry'. It is refreshing to see reaffirmed the need for a careful history and physical examination. The first 40 pages are a revision course in preclinical biochemistry and the next 180 have chapters on the 'pathophysiology and differential diagnosis of clinical derangements'. These are arranged either according to organ systems (such as chapters on the eye, the liver, muscle disorders, and mental retardation) or according to biochemical systems such as ketogenesis, hypoglycaemia, and acid base balance. A series of chapters on specific metabolic disorders occupies some 170 pages and is well classified. The final short section of 30 pages discusses laboratory investigation. Throughout the book there are clear and useful tables and diagrams.

This book is directed primarily at the general clinician but contains considerably more detail than is to be found in standard texts and perhaps more than most paediatricians would welcome. There is a constant tendency to veer away from clinical relevance—perhaps unavoidable in this type of book. The title is also slightly misleading because there is much more to the book than 'A guide to early recognition' would suggest; indeed there is so much information that this particular aspect tends to be submerged. The general paediatrician will find this a book worth reading but not perhaps an essential purchase.

T E STACEY

Primary and Secondary Immunodeficiency Disorders. Edited by R K Chandra. Pp 303: £28.00 hardback. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1983.

Several books dealing with immunodeficiency disorders in man have appeared on the market recently and this one is a welcome addition as it provides a totally different emphasis. In addition to dealing with the rare primary immunodeficiency syndromes in some detail (the authors of these chapters are all world authorities), a large section of the book is devoted to secondary immunodeficiency states. These are numerically very common since they occur after malnutrition, chronic infections due to virus or parasites, malignancy, or