some misjudgements about the production. I hope that the large amount of careful and hard work that has gone into this book will continue and that it will re-emerge in a format that reflects the sturdiness and quality of British paediatrics.

ROY MEADOW

Shorter notices


This well organised collection of 26 papers covers many aspects of the often overlooked subject of nutrition. Although not intended to be comprehensive, the topics cover a wide range from breast feeding to iron metabolism with papers on clinical management, biochemical and physiological studies.


This short, pocket sized text aims to teach the medical student the art of paediatric clinical diagnosis. Beginning with advice on history taking it offers a broad outline of practical methods for the physical examination of children and ends with a useful section on normal values in infants and children.


Forty four contributions to the International Symposium average 6 pages each. A quarter, on education and psychosocial aspects, are mainly discursive and repetitive. Several on epilepsy and psychiatry are valuable with ‘Behavioural effects of kindling’ by R M Post being particularly interesting. A review of genetics of epilepsy by P Gray and accounts of the place of surgery by Rasmussen and Vaernet confirmed previous lessons. Neurotransmitters, new imaging, and behavioural techniques are not mentioned. A patchy but quite useful book for those particularly interested in the subject who were not there.