

Reviews

CHILD HEALTH

Child Health and Development. By Various Authors. Edited by Richard W. B. Ellis, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 364; 49 illustrations. 18s.) London: J. and A. Churchill. 1947.

This book is a valuable addition to the growing library of books on child health, and the editor has been fortunate in the authority and special knowledge of the twelve other contributors to the volume. Of its two sections the first—on development—contains an account of anatomical, physiological, and psychological aspects of growth. We would draw attention to the masterly chapter on functional development of the foetus, by the late Sir Joseph Barcroft, and those on growth and puberty by Prof. H. A. Harris and by the editor. Prof. Ellis also contributes to this section two chapters on the newborn and on digestion, nutrition, and feeding, in which he combines in a clear and concise narrative essential scientific knowledge with practical guidance. The second section, "Social Aspects of Child Health," is considerably shorter and is mainly devoted to brief accounts of the social services and institutions dealing with healthy, "deprived," and delinquent children. It also includes a short account of the English educational system by Sir Fred Clarke.

The unfolding and complicated life of the growing child in all its aspects, together with the social problems that are involved, is a vast subject, and we cannot expect a book of this modest size to contain a full account. It is also difficult to give unity to a book of composite authorship. But all who have the care of children will welcome this book; it is a scientific manual and makes fundamental scientific knowledge available for the practical guidance and control of child health.

CHARLES MCNEIL.

TREATMENT OF DELINQUENCY

The Psycho-analytical Approach to Juvenile Delinquency. Theory, Case Studies, Treatment. By Kate Friedlander, M.D., D.P.M. International Library of Sociology and Social Reconstruction. (Pp. 296. 18s.) London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co. 1947.

Although a steadily increasing amount of work has been done on the psychological aspects of delinquency, so much indeed that the clinical diagnosis and treatment of delinquency can now be regarded as a special branch of medical psychology, there is an astonishing dearth of reliable textbooks on the subject. Dr. Friedlander's book goes far to remedy this defect. That it is written by a thorough-paced Freudian is not altogether inappropriate, for without Freud's discoveries of the unconscious mind and of the unconscious mechanisms that regulate it the field of delinquency must have remained a *terra incognita*.

Despite the fact that the author devotes a substantial part of her book to presenting psycho-analytical theory and is throughout clearly influenced by psycho-analytical opinions, the scope and method of her presentation give evidence of first-hand clinical experience. In the section on diagnosis she clearly distinguishes unconscious factors from those social factors which not only influence the development of antisocial conduct but often determine its immediate direction. Indeed, she bases her classifications of delinquent states largely on these distinctions. Perhaps here she is least convincing. Like many analysts she pays scant attention to the clinical concept of psychopathy, a neglect which is justified only if psycho-analysts can produce more illuminating and at the same time more useful clinical classifications of character disorder. They do not appear to have done this.

Discussing treatment, Dr. Friedlander carefully distinguishes between psycho-analytic and other forms of psychotherapy and points out the limitations to applying classical psycho-analytic methods to delinquent subjects. She describes clearly the role of "transference" in the various forms of social therapy or disposal and ends with a useful outline of preventive measures. This is a good book.

EDWARD GLOVER.

EXTRACELLULAR FLUID

Chemical Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology of Extracellular Fluid. A Lecture Syllabus. By James L. Gamble. Fifth edition. (Pp. 160. 52 charts. 7s. 6d.) Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege (Oxford University Press). 1947.

Prof. Gamble's monograph is now established as being one of those few medical books which may truly be described as classics. As in previous editions he modestly presents the material as a syllabus of concise lecture notes based on illustrative charts; thus each section is simply headed with the number of a chart, which is explained in the text. This manner of exposition from simple line diagrams enables the author to make complex biochemical subjects easily understandable to the general medical reader. The text is brief, occupying 105 pages in large print, but characterized by remarkable lucidity and by flashes of inspired phrasing.

The main feature of the book is that the author amplifies and gives precision to Claude Bernard's great concept of the internal environment. Prof. Gamble, largely on the basis of his own research, has revealed the essential qualitative and quantitative aspects of the extracellular fluid. His separate papers and this integrated presentation illumine and make real a subject, hitherto dimly understood, which is not only important in the theory of physiology and pathology but of great practical significance in a wide range of medical and surgical disorders. To quote but one example: understanding of the normal and abnormal states of the extracellular fluid is fundamental to the proper use of fluid administration whether by mouth or by parenteral routes. The construction of the book is similar to that of former editions, but it contains some new material. The author begins by describing the normal quantity and composition of the extracellular fluid and then goes on to discuss how its constancy of composition and volume are maintained. In the later part of the book he considers the pathogenesis of dehydration and of acidosis and alkalosis and, finally, parenteral fluid therapy.

H. L. MARRIOTT.

RADIOLOGY

Radiography for Medical Students. By Fred Jenner Hodges, M.D., Isadore Lampe, M.D., and John Floyd Holt, M.D. (Pp. 424; 103 plates. \$6.75 or 37s. 6d.) Chicago: Year Book Publishers, Inc. London: H. K. Lewis and Co. 1947.

Confrontations. Radio-Anatomo-Cliniques. Published under the direction of M. Chiray, R. K. Gutmann, and J. Sénèque. Fascicule I. (Pp. 56; 98 figures. 370 francs.) Paris: G. Doin et Cie, Masson et Cie. 1946.

The undergraduate teaching of radiology in Britain is essentially elementary and in most medical schools does not consist of more than half a dozen lectures a year; it is debatable whether more should be packed into the already overloaded curriculum. Radiology is now sometimes taught with anatomy and physiology, and some of the pioneers argue that the combination is particularly instructive. American medicine has gone much further in this direction. This interesting volume, equally divided into accounts of x-ray diagnosis and therapy, is founded on the authors' teaching of undergraduates in the University of Michigan. There is no doubt that if the undergraduate has the time and basic knowledge to read and digest its contents he would become a wiser and better doctor, for it is well written and combines a full account of pathology with instruction in elementary radiology and physics. Judged by British standards it contains far too much, and it is not unreasonable to say that the material is so plausibly presented that there is a danger of diverting the student from more fundamental approaches to health and disease. This book is best for the postgraduate student and the beginner in radiology, but something less than this and more than the meagre pittance we consider necessary for the undergraduate is desirable and has still to be written.

The second volume is neither an essay on radiology nor a textbook but a report of the clinical, pathological, and radiological findings in 53 interesting cases of disease of the gastrointestinal tract. The authors are well known to radiologists for their interesting pre-war contributions to the study of early carcinoma of the stomach. In this series there are many such