

chapters is a protracted and complicated business involving all the skills of a department of paediatrics at various times, but in between admissions the affected child must be guarded from infections which can barely be resisted by the practitioner-parent team. Antibiotics, and exercises learned at hospital can be combined in a regime of treatment supervised by the family doctor.

Few symposia have been so effectively produced as this, a hardback, the glossy pages of which suggest that the next coloured illustration will be Peter Rabbit in a bed of lettuces rather than goblet cells in bronchial epithelium. The book can be read in an evening and such is its lucidity, much that it contains is remembered. Its perusal by general practitioners will be a curtain raiser to a new research study by the epidemic observation unit of the College.

**Fibrinolysis.** British Medical Bulletin. 1964. Vol. 20. No. 3. London. The British Council. Pp. 79. Price 30s.

Fibrinolysis is a subject of great interest. The removal of fibrin and the subsequent resolution of inflammatory states has long been appreciated but it is comparatively recently that this subject has been investigated with a view to applying the underlying physiological principles to thromboembolic pathology.

This issue contains 14 papers in which the whole state of present day knowledge of fibrinolysis is reviewed. The one which deals with thrombolytic therapy will probably have the greatest immediate appeal to general practitioners. Many of us made mistakes by rushing in with cortisone therapy without first appreciating the dangers and difficulties. Here is an opportunity to learn the caution and limitations imposed on therapy with streptokinase and urokinase, both of which are commercially available, before attempting to use them indiscriminately.

Those who are familiar with the extremely high quality of work presented in the British Medical Bulletin know that it is not for casual reading . . . it requires a quiet room and both elbows on the table.

**Some Aspects of Chronic Bronchitis.** Proceedings of a Symposium held at The Royal Society of Medicine, London, November 1963. Edited by F. A. H. SIMMONDS, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., and L. B. HUNT, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. vii + 87. Price 12s. 6d.

In the thirteen short contributions by different speakers and in the discussion all the aspects of chronic bronchitis important to the general practitioner are covered—epidemiology, natural history, aetiology, pathology, diagnosis, prevention and treatment. Several of the contributions are notable for their clarity of presentation and only one is notably obscure. Here, then, is a useful monograph on this disease which is so important to readers of this *Journal* and on which so much work has been done in the last 15 years. The considerable contributions made by individuals and groups in this College finds ample recognition in it. The reader will look at his bronchitic patients with renewed interest and confidence.