

practitioner must realize all too well that the time is getting shorter before he is called upon to deal with an underwater accident patient. For those who appreciate this possibility and for that matter, the possibility of being asked to give advice by a sub-aqua club to prevent such accidents, this book gives excellent guidance and instructions.

Perhaps not many will have the time or inclination to read the whole book, and indeed there is no need for the general practitioner to do so. However, the three chapters: on Underwater Accidents, Drowning, and the Treatment of the Apparently Drowned are quite essential.

The whole book frequently has the fascination of a new world and I found the non-technical sections absorbing reading; while the concept proposed by Kylstra of 'fluid breathing', that is to fill the respiratory system with a saline solution in osmotic equilibrium with the blood, was positively exciting.

The development of the infant and young child—normal and abnormal. Fourth edition.

R. S. ILLINGWORTH, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1970. Pp. 382. Price £2 2s. 0d. (£2.10).

It is significant that a medical book dealing with a new approach to an old subject has had a fourth edition printed within ten years of the first. It suggests that the subject with which it deals is changing or expanding rapidly and there is an increasing demand for it. These features apply to Professor Illingworth's comprehensive description of infant and child development and the special form of examination required to assess it.

A good case is made to establish developmental diagnosis as a necessary part of the responsible doctor's care of his very young patients. The text is amply illustrated with photographs. Most sections are summarized which helps for quick reference, whilst for the specialist an extensive bibliography completes each chapter.

Now that the family doctor is realizing the value to his infant patient of regular observation of development and few of these doctors have been trained to make such examinations, the book should be on the shelf of every keen general practitioner. It is necessary to read it through to obtain a general approach to the problem and thereafter it will be repeatedly needed for reference.

The fourth edition has a rather less elegant binding and a less acceptable print. Clearly the previous edition has been completely revised and the result does the author credit. Most important of the additions is his factual account of the

limitations of developmental prediction under the heading "What we can and cannot do". Certain headings to paragraphs have been chosen to add emphasis to their content without this being materially changed. A few new illustrations are welcome. A working knowledge of developmental diagnosis and its application in practice enhances interest in the baby clinic, a fact that this readable book conveys to the practising doctor.

Handbook of paediatrics. Eighth edition. HENRY K. SILVER, M.D., C. HENRY KEMPE, M.D., and HENRY B. BRUYN, M.D. Oxford and Edinburgh. Blackwell Scientific Publications. Los Altos, California. Lange Medical Publications. 1969. Pp. vi+682. Price £2.17s. (£2.85)

The three joint authors of this handbook have maintained their previous practice of revising their book and bringing out a new edition every two years. This new eighth edition is essentially the same as the seventh, a handy reference, almost compact enough for the coat pocket, certainly for the consulting room bookshelf rather than for the reference library. As a consequence of the bi-annual review, the contents of this handbook remain as near as is possible up to date. However one important omission occurs in chapter two in the sub-section on drug therapy in children, whilst discussing paediatric dosage no mention is made of the Catzel system, which is now in widespread use, and a good deal easier to use than any of those mentioned by the authors. An important addition has been made to the appendix, with the inclusion of a short section on differential diagnosis of symptoms and signs. Several common symptoms and signs are considered such as hypertension and lymphadenopathy, the possible differential diagnosis being given in list form. There is no discussion.

This remains a most excellent and useful handbook of great value to anyone involved in the treatment and care of children.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Biochemistry. Second edition. S. P. DATTA, B.Sc., M.B., B.S. and J. H. OTTAWAY, B.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.I.C. London. Bailliere, Tindall and Cassell Ltd. 1969. Pp. vi+446. Price 30s. (£1.50).

An introduction to medical genetics. Fifth edition. J. A. FRASER ROBERTS, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. London. Oxford University Press. 1970. Pp. xiv+269. Price paper covers 35s. (£1.75), board covers £2 10s. (£2.50).