

NHS market but for North American and Antipodean women. There is a full list of manufacturers and corsetieres, as well as a good reading list.

I would have liked to see a little more discussion of sexual adjustment, not only from the point of view of men but also of women. My only real quarrel with the authors is the use of the term 'mastectomee'.

I think that general practitioners, including myself, can help their women patients considerably by recommending this book.

K. E. SCHÖPFLIN

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

Sandra Burman and
Hazel Genn (eds)

Croom Helm Limited
London (1977)

140 pages. Price £5.95

Accidents in the home really are a blind spot to most of us in general practice, which is remarkable when we consider how many patients we see and how many letters pass through our files as a result of them. Despite the front-page publicity devoted to road accidents, accidents at home attract little attention although they cause as many deaths.

This book consists of a series of chapters on different aspects of accidents in the home and brings together useful information. It is estimated that in 1975 6,463 people died as a result of domestic accidents, about 100,000 were admitted to hospital because of their injuries, and about two million people were involved in accidents in the home which resulted in minor injuries.

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection seems to be the government department primarily concerned with home accidents, which is not what I had expected. It is disappointing to see that much of the research depends on rather poor information derived from accident and emergency departments and that very little has been produced from general practice.

The evidence in favour of accident-prone individuals and behavioural and particularly relationship factors being associated with home accidents is interesting. It is a challenge for general practice now to begin to use this information to start devising ways of reducing injuries and deaths.

D. J. PEREIRA GRAY

TRAINING IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Scottish Council for Postgraduate
Medical Education
Edinburgh (1977)

22 pages. No price given

The Scottish Council for Postgraduate Medical Education has recently published a booklet written by Dr Alastair G. Donald, Adviser in General Practice for the South-Eastern Region of Scotland and Vice-Chairman of the Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners.

This booklet is similar and complementary to that issued by the Central Council for Postgraduate Medical Education in England and Wales which we reviewed in the August issue of the *Journal* (p. 508). It is, however, set in an educational rather than an administrative mould and underlines the educational process throughout.

The documents described apply only to Scotland and will therefore not be helpful to English readers. However, the booklet is well worth reading by all trainers and trainees throughout the UK because it does set out more clearly than before the precise requirements which should, where possible, be met in every teaching practice. Two of the criteria are a commonroom and an age-sex register.

It is encouraging to read that "every family practice should be equipped with a small library and some current medical journals". The importance of terminal assessment by trainees taking the MRCGP examination is also stressed.

D. J. PEREIRA GRAY

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF DISEASE IN CHILDREN. 5TH EDITION

R. S. Illingworth

Blackwell Scientific Publications
Oxford (1975)

375 pages. Price £5.50

Dr Illingworth, Professor of Child Health at the University of Sheffield, is a well-known author of several books on paediatrics and this, one of his best known, has now reached the fifth edition. There are only 54 additional pages, yet the price has risen from £3.50—a sign of the times. It speaks well for its popularity that it has been translated into Spanish, Greek, Italian, and Dutch.

For those who come to it for the first time, Professor Illingworth has done a

service to all who care for children by giving us a 'French' (French's *Index of Differential Diagnosis*) of paediatrics which is extremely useful for newly qualified doctors faced with the differential diagnosis of a child with a problem sitting on his mother's knee in the consulting room.

Among the new symptoms which have been added are: swelling of the face and scrotum; pain in the face; retention of urine; oliguria; indistinct speech; and several skin rashes. At the end of the book there is a list of the adverse effects of many drugs, which comes as a timely reminder of this important cause of illness in children.

When the fourth edition was published, I reviewed it in *Update* (Pollak, 1974a) and Professor Illingworth and I had a correspondence which was published in the same journal (Illingworth, 1974; Pollak, 1974b). At that time I suggested that Professor Illingworth, as one might expect, took the view of a hospital paediatrician and that certain symptoms, for example, otitis media, gastroenteritis, wheeziness, and febrile fits looked rather different when viewed from outside hospital. I also suggested that intelligent doctors liked to know what happened to their patients rather than simply to be told that they should be referred to a specialist. While there has been, here and there, a slight adjustment to a sentence, the main text is unchanged, so that my original criticism still stands.

At the time, I noted that such a book should have been written from general practice and I regretted that no such book existed. I am glad to say that now such a rival has appeared, written by a practising family doctor. Dr Stuart Carne's book (1977) goes a long way to cover the same ground, although it is not presented in the same way, nor is it concerned solely with diagnosis. It is, however, able to present the problems from the general practitioner's point of view. I hope that it will be widely read, since it is so important for the future health of general practice that subjects such as common symptoms in children are taught by the masters of the common symptom—our most highly skilled and experienced family doctors.

MARGARET POLLAK

References

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Hart, F. D. (1972). *French's Index of Differential Diagnosis*. 10th edition. Bristol: J. Wright.
Illingworth, R. S. (1974). *Update*, 9, 239.
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