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Postgraduate Medical Journal publishes original papers on subjects of current clinical importance and welcomes review articles with extensive, up-to-date bibliographies as guides to further reading. Several symposia are published each year, each devoted to a single subject and written by specialists in different disciplines. Most issues include authoritative Current Surveys of clinical problems, and well documented Reports of cases of particular interest, and Book Reviews.

A 'Notice to Contributors' is published on the inside back cover of this issue. The Editor reserves the right to make changes which may clarify or condense papers where this is considered desirable.

The Journal is covered by *Current Contents* and *Biological Abstracts*.

EDITORIAL MATTERS

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Books received

Bailey and Love's Short Practice of Surgery. 18th edn. Revised by A. J. HARDING RAINS and H. DAVID. Pp. xii+1370, illustrated. H. K. Lewis, London, 1981. £23.00.

Baillière's Medical Transparencies. Disease from the Tropics. Set 1 (23 slides). Set 2 (24 slides). By A. D. M. BRYCESON and V. E. ANDSELL. Paperback with slides mounted in plastic wallet. 10 pp. per set. Baillière Tindall, London, 1981. £18.50+VAT £1.78 (not sold singly).

Bladder Cancer. A Series of Workshops on the Biology of Human Cancer. Report no. 13. Edited by P. SKRABANEK and A. WALSH. UICC Technical Report Series, vol. 60,

Pp. 192. International Union against Cancer, Geneva, 1981. Sw. Fr. 32.00.

Boundary and Space. An Introduction to the Work of D. W. Winnicott. By MADELEINE DAVIS and DAVID WALLBRIDGE. Pp. xiv+196, H. Karnac, London, 1981. £9.00.

Clinical Investigation of Respiratory Disease. Edited by T. J. H. CLARK. Pp. xiv+526, illustrated. Chapman and Hall, London, 1981. £22.50.

Children who have Fits. By G. P. McMULLIN. Pp. 64. Duckworth, London, 1981. £3.95.

Books reviewed

Children Who Have Fits

G. P. McMULLIN, pp. 64. Duckworth, London, 1981. £3.95.

The provision of factual data to help parents understand more about a child's disorder seems self-evidently useful. Dr McMullin's booklet entitled *Children Who Have Fits* sets out to do this. Unfortunately, the result is a mixture of good clinical description suitable for parents or doctors (although it is puzzling why incontinence is omitted as occurring in grand mal seizures until the summary on p. 57) and a text sometimes more appropriate to a professional treatise than for a work intended for potentially anxious parents. An example is a complex discussion on prognosis based on the statistical data (pp. 51-52) and the use of jargon like 'focal lesion'. There are also major omissions. There are no indications where families could get help and advice if that already being provided does not seem to be answering their needs. There is nothing concerning possible problems likely to be met during education, nor about the different problems arising during adolescence.

A rather bland optimism evident throughout would be more helpful if linked to clear and supportive information.

The choice of drugs for different types of seizures is detailed and this again seems inappropriate unless we envisage a time when parents will need to check on their paediatricians. Regretfully, I feel that a potentially useful shot has missed its target.

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and Queen Mary's Hospital,
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Clinical Heart Disease

By SAMUEL ORAM. 2nd edn. Pp. viii+953, illustrated. William Heinemann Medical Books, 1981. £50.00.

This second edition of a well-established Textbook of Cardiology has been rewritten to take account of the important advances in technology and practice of cardiology that have taken place since the first edition was published in 1971.

Many cardiologists keep themselves informed of current cardiological practice by the numerous monographs on various aspects of this discipline. This book will therefore be particularly orientated as a practical guide and reference book for the general clinician, the physician with an interest in cardiology and for students undertaking postgraduate training and postgraduate examinations.

This book is founded on a strong clinical bias and includes sufficient information of modern investigatory procedures, particularly echocardiography and isotope studies, without over-burdening the general reader with the finer point of these technologies. At the end of each chapter there is a well-balanced reference section, including many recent publications and a list of salient features of particular interest to be emphasized from the foregoing chapter.

The book has been liberally endowed with many figures to amplify the text, but the quality of some of the X-rays could have been improved. Clearly one detects that some of the X-rays and ECGs have been drawn from Dr Oram's vast cardiological practice and therefore suffer from the lack of advances in modern-day presentation of such figures.

In a day and age when many new drugs and trials are constantly reported, this book has certainly reported many recent results.

This book is an essential publication fulfilling all the traditions of British cardiology, particularly with its strong clinical bias. It can be warmly recommended as a reference book for the clinician, the general physician with an interest in cardiology and for those studying for higher degrees. At £50, however, this price may slightly restrict its circulation.

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A Colour Atlas of Paediatric Surgical Diagnosis

By L. SPITZ, G. M. STEINER and R. B. ZACHARY. Pp. 240 illustrated. Wolfe Medical Publications, London, 1981. £30.00.

This new atlas consists of 772 illustrations, the majority of which are colour plates. Almost one-quarter of the illustra-

Postgraduate Medical Journal: Notice to Contributors

Typescripts. Two complete copies should be sent to the Editor, Postgraduate Medical Journal, Chandos House, 2 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 9LE. Papers should be typewritten on one side of the paper only, with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch margin, and the lines should be double spaced. The paper should bear the name of the author(s) with their degrees and the name of the laboratory or research institute where the work has been carried out. The full address of the principal author should be given as a footnote.

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All references should be brought together at the end of the paper in alphabetical order giving (a) name(s) of all the author(s) "*et al.*" not acceptable here; (b) year of publication in parentheses; (c) title of paper in its original form; (d) title of journal in full, underlined; (e) volume number, underlined; number of first page of article. References to books and monographs should include (a) name(s) and initials of all author(s) or editor(s); year of publication in parentheses, (b) title, underlined; (c) edition; (d) page referred to; (e) publisher; (f) place. Authors should ensure that the listed references correspond exactly to those in the text. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of their references.

Standard usage. The *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* is used as a reference for all spelling and hyphenation. Verbs which contain the suffix -ize (-ise) and their derivatives should be spelt with the z. Statistics and measurements should always be given in figures, i.e. 10 min, 20 hr, 5 ml, except where the number begins the sentence. SI units should be used wherever possible. Papers should be written in the third person.

Figures. In the text Arabic numbers, e.g. Fig. 3, should be used. They should be marked on the backs with the name(s) of the author(s) and the title of the paper. The top of each figure should be indicated with an arrow on the reverse side. Each figure must bear a reference corresponding to a similar number in the text. Photographs and photomicrographs should be unmounted glossy prints and should not be retouched. Line diagrams should be on separate sheets; they should be drawn with black Indian ink on white paper and should be twice the size of the final reproduction. The originals of line diagrams, prepared as described above, may be submitted in photographs of similar size. The legends of all figures should be typed together on a single sheet of paper headed 'Captions to Figures'.

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Page proofs will be submitted to the senior author for minor corrections and should be returned to the Editor within 3 days. Major alterations to the text cannot be accepted.

Offprints. These may be purchased if ordered on the form which will be sent to the senior author with the proofs.

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