

DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By GARROD, BATTEN & THURSFIELD.

(Third edition).

Edited by Hugh Thursfield and Donald Paterson. Edward Arnold & Co. 1934.

Price 50/-.

This edition like its predecessors may still be looked upon as the London exposition of pædiatrics, since of the 36 contributors only 3 are not associated with hospitals in the Metropolis. The first edition appeared in 1913 and the second in 1929.

Although the form of the volume remains essentially the same and it is distinguished by the clarity of the type and the reproductions of the illustrations and in addition since many of the original writers are still contributors, the third edition does not just seem to reach the high level of its predecessors. Mention, however, should be made of the introduction of a chapter on orthodontics and of an admirable chapter dealing with the results of modern technique in investigating diseases of the urinary tract. But like all composite works in which many authors are concerned there is apt to be a certain inequality in the standard of the articles and an unnecessary degree of overlapping and duplication as well as differences in teaching. As an example of the unnecessary overlapping it may be pointed out that epileptiform convulsions are considered by three separate writers under "tetany," "convulsions during infancy" and "the epilepsies." This is a matter of some importance in any attempt to bring within the covers of one book a large subject dealing with medicine and surgery in childhood.

We also regret that in some important instances most recent work has not been considered. Under bronchiectasis, for instance, the only ætiological factor mentioned is fibrosis of the lung, the current ideas of atelectasis not receiving any attention, although curiously one of the two references appended is an article dealing with that very aspect of the problem. It is confusing too, to find the writer in the section of the diseases of the throat and nose lay so much stress on the association of sinusitis and bronchiectasis while the writer of the section on diseases of the lungs completely ignores the question. In the discus-

sion of the treatment of congenital syphilis we feel that mention should be made of spirocid since it is a drug which can be administered orally and thus dispense with the necessity of intramuscular and intravenous injections, the latter of which are often so difficult in the young child. We would also recommend that the editors in future editions adopt a uniform system in connection with the references to current literature.

BROMPTON HOSPITAL REPORTS. Vol. III.

Gale & Polden, Ltd., Aldershot. 1934.

Price 2/6.

This volume undoubtedly sustains the high level of its predecessors and is evidence of the mental activity of the medical and surgical staff of the Brompton Hospital.

The Reports consist really of three parts: 1, articles by members of the staff which have recently appeared in various journals; 2, statistical tables of the material (clinical and pathological) which has been investigated in the hospital; and 3, a series of clinical records of interesting and unusual conditions.

The reprinted papers cover a wide field of respiratory disease. Of these mention may be made of two by Dr. R. A. Young—one on "Recent Advances in the Treatment of Diseases of the Respiratory System," and one on "The Seaside Resort in the Treatment of Respiratory Disease." Drs. Burrell, Punch and F. H. Young discuss the question of Artificial Pneumothorax from different aspects and Messrs. Roberts and Nelson describe the operation of Lobectomy and record the results obtained in ten recent cases. "Malignant Disease of the Lung" is the subject of a communication by Mr. Tudor Edwards and "Malignant Disease of the Bronchus" by Mr. Ormerod.

The present volume is supplied with an index of all articles and other matter which have appeared in the three volumes.