

# Reviews of Recent Books



**The Good Housekeeping Book of Baby and Child Care**, by L. Emmett Holt, Jr., M.D. Appleton-Century-Crofts, New York, 1957, pp. 288, \$4.95.

This attractive book, written by an eminent pediatrician, is a worthy successor to a long line of books known as "Holt's Care and Feeding of Children." Written in a simple direct style, it packs into a relatively small volume a surprisingly large amount of information. Special mention must be made of the many attractive photographs by Tana Hoban and the drawings by Saul Lambert.

The section on feeding is especially well done. The following is typical: "It isn't necessary that every child receive a quart of milk a day, as is sometimes recommended. A pint or a pint and a half will suffice." In the paragraph on poor appetite Holt writes, "The mother is likely to fear that he's starving himself and the grandparents or other members of the household are often even more firmly convinced of this." Thus wisdom is mixed with common sense and extensive experience.

In addition to nutrition, other topics are growth, physical and mental development, behavior problems, and brief discussions of common illnesses. Although written for the parents there is no "talking down." The author recognizes that the modern parent wants more than a dogmatic statement of what to do. The parent also wants to know something of the why. As the author says, he has tried to deal honestly with the common problems of early life. This book can be strongly recommended to all new and expectant parents, because the author's aim has been achieved.

S. O. W.

**The Clinical Aspects of Arteriosclerosis**, by S. H. Rinzler. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1957, pp. 318, \$8.75.

This is a useful, well-documented book. All significant relevant topics are covered and numerous illustrations, some in color, add to the value of the text. The book is somewhat unusual in that it is so thoroughly documented that it often reads as a *summary* of the literature rather than as a *discussion*, based largely on the author's experience. One wishes that there was included more critical comment on the material already published. The section on nutrition is brief but adequate considering the unsettled state of the specialty. All in all this book should prove useful as a review of the current status of a highly complex subject.

S. O. W.

**Biochemistry**, by Abraham Cantarow and Bernard Schepartz. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1957, pp. 867, \$12.00.

According to the authors, this book was designed primarily to meet the needs of the first year medical student. Such a student, if he absorbs and retains a fair proportion of the material presented, would indeed be well informed on biochemistry.

The text is clearly written. The numerous figures, charts and structural formulae, in addition to a good index, enhance the value of the book. The authors go far beyond their original design.

Clinicians, biochemists, and students in allied sciences will find this book an excellent source of pertinent information.

O. M. HELMER

**Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary**, 23rd edition, ed. by L. B. Arey, Ph.D., Sc.D., W. Burrows, Ph.D., J. P. Greenhill, M.D., and R. M. Hewitt, M.D. W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1957, pp. 1,598, \$12.50.

A new edition of this standard work is always welcomed by those whose activities take them into the wilds of medical writing. Meeting the needs of a rapidly growing science the dictionary includes many new terms. Of special interest are the section on modern drugs and dosages by the editor of the *J. A. M. A.* and a section on medical etymology. The long list of distinguished consultants and contributors indicates the reliability of the work. That "Dorland" has been a leading medical dictionary for 57 years is the best recommendation one can make.

R. S. W.

Books received for review by THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF CLINICAL NUTRITION are acknowledged in this column. As far as practicable those of special interest are selected, as space permits, for a more extensive review.

*Ear, Nose and Throat Dysfunctions Due to Deficiencies and Imbalances* by Sam E. Roberts, Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1957, pp. 323, \$8.50.

*A History of Nutrition* by E. V. McCollum, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1957, pp. 451, \$6.00.

*Hormones in Blood*, edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme and E. C. P. Millar (Ciba Foundation Colloquia on Endocrinology, Volume XI), Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1957, pp. 416, \$9.00.

*Clinical Gastroenterology* by Eddy D. Palmer, Hoeber, New York, 1957, pp. 630, \$18.50.