

**INFANT CARE**—Children's Bureau Publication No. 8—1951—Ninth Edition. By the Federal Security Agency, Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. 145 pages. 20 cents.

"Infant Care" has undergone another revision, bringing it up to date. This little pamphlet was first published in 1914 and has had eight previous revisions. In its present form it is an excellent booklet for mothers. It is well written, it covers all the aspects of infant care both from the pediatric angle and from the psychiatric angle and is very well illustrated by attractive pictures. It should continue to spread its influence among parents in widely scattered areas of this country.

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**STATISTICS FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS AND INVESTIGATORS IN THE CLINICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES.** By Frederick J. Moore, M.D., Associate Professor of Experimental Medicine; Frank B. Cramer, B.A., Research Fellow; and Robert G. Knowles, M.S., Research Associate, Department of Experimental Medicine, University of Southern California School of Medicine. 11 Figures, 16 Tables, 113 pages. The Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, 5, Pa. 1951. \$3.35.

The authors have succeeded in condensing most of the pertinent data of the quantitative method in a single volume, which when augmented by appropriate lecture material and illustrated with examples from the field of biology, meets the minimum requirements of advanced students for a quantitative method of presentation of data which are subject to the influence of numerable variables. The authors have been most meticulous in the use of the terminology of biometry, often at the expense of clarity. This compact volume constitutes a *vade mecum* for a lecture course in the principles of the statistical method as conceived by the authors.

The book is difficult to read because the publishers sacrificed clarity and readability for expediency and economy of production. This volume is suitable as a supplementary syllabus for intermediate students in the field of biometry.

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**MODERN MEDICATION OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.** By Noah D. Fabricant, M.D., M.S., Clinical Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology, University of Illinois, College of Medicine, Grune and Stratton, New York. 1951. 245 pages. \$5.75.

This book compresses considerable information, both factual and theoretical, within its 245 pages. A short sketch of the anatomy, histology and physiology of the ear, nose, throat and larynx is outlined at the beginning of each section. Bacteriology of certain diseases is given when indicated. Therapy, old and new, for all common diseases of the ear, nose and throat is detailed. There is a chapter on the modern conception and therapy of headache.

According to the author, "The book's dual aim is to present both recent advances and time-tested experiences with drugs, not only from the standpoint of the specialist but from the point of view of the general practitioner." In some ways this book is a "therapeutic review" rather than a book on advice in the practical application of medication of the ear, nose and throat. The therapy presented is abundant and, for the experienced specialist, serves possibly as a good reference work. For the general practitioner who does not have the opportunity of reading the specialty publications, it is a summary of what has been and is being used. If, however, the general practitioner consults this book for advice he may become confused. In one subject, for example, "Medication of Tinnitus," the author names, in one paragraph, more than fifteen medicaments that have been reported as aiding tinnitus. He ends this paragraph by stating, "Unfortunately none of these agents can be consistently relied upon to give relief, but most of them can be tried." Such a review, without separating the good from the bad, is

of limited help to the general man who seeks help. The value of future editions would be enhanced if the author used his or others' experiences to summarize the most accepted therapy for each individual condition.

This book is well organized, is read easily and, notwithstanding the above criticism, is recommended as a reference book for both the specialist and the general practitioner.

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**EATING PROBLEMS OF CHILDREN—A Guide for Parents and EATING PATTERNS OF CHILDREN—A Guide for Doctors and Nurses.** By The National Association for Mental Health, Inc., 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y., 1951. One to 99 copies, 15c each; 100-999, \$3.00 per hundred; 1000-4,999, \$6.50 per hundred; 5,000-9,999, \$5.50 per hundred; 10,000-24,999, \$5.00 per hundred; and 25,000 copies or more, \$4.50 per hundred.

**EATING PROBLEMS OF CHILDREN—A Guide for Parents.**

This is an excellent pamphlet and should have extensive use in doctors' offices. It touches on the important aspects of feeding problems both from the pediatric point of view and from the psychiatric point of view and is in such a readable form with such excellent illustrations that everyone should enjoy it. It should be a worthwhile supplement for doctors when they have such a problem.

**EATING PATTERNS OF CHILDREN—A Guide for Doctors and Nurses.**

This second pamphlet, to accompany the first one, is likewise an excellent pamphlet. It would probably serve a greater purpose in offices where either the doctors or nurses have not had pediatric education within the last ten years. At present most of these problems are discussed in the education for pediatrics both by doctors and by nurses and therefore are not as important to the group of specialists as it is for those people who must handle children when they have not had much training or experience with them. It should serve a very useful purpose in many situations.

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**SEX AND THE LAW**—Morris Ploscowe. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 70 Fifth Ave., New York. 310 pages. \$3.95.

In this book a distinguished jurist considers every form of sexual activity with which the law concerns itself. There is presented a history of the law of marriage, divorce, and annulment, as well as a general discussion of criminal sexuality. Of real value are the author's recommendations for constructive amendment of these laws.

This work will be of particular interest to criminologists, legislators, sociologists, and psychiatrists.

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**A DOCTOR'S PILGRIMAGE**—Edmund A. Brasset, M.D., J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1951. 256 pages. \$3.50.

In *Henry V*, the bard observed, "There is occasions and causes why and wherefore in all things." A diligent search of this well printed book fails to disclose even a slender clue as to the "occasions and causes" of its composition or publication. The good doctor's career blooms slowly through the usual forest of weeds, and is beset by miscellaneous bad weather in the form of difficult patients, matrimony, offspring, postgraduate education and (we assume) success.

Here and there in the book there are slender insertions of medical advice, but no additions to the world's wit or wisdom.

The bard first named also composed *Henry IV*, and in that he observes, "If reasons were as plenty as blackberries, I would give no man a reason upon compulsion." This is not the blackberry season. Perhaps it is even not the autobiography season.