Buchbesprechungen


Four years have elapsed since the first edition of this book. In this time there have been major advances in many fields. Chromosome studies have become possible and have elucidated many problems of sexual development and of mongolism. Furthermore, biochemical studies have introduced a lot of new knowledge about the inborn errors of metabolism and lately there has arisen a new interest in congenital malformations and their causes. In this edition the author, a pathologist, summarizes the present-day status of our knowledge of these important advances. The volume contains chapters about experimental embryology, structure and function of embryonic and foetal tissues, malformations and their causes, inborn metabolic and allied disorders, embryonic tumours and teratomas, regeneration and repair, metaplasia, transplantation and tissue culture. Many excellent illustrations and an index of the most important publications about the particular fields complete this synopsis of embryology and pathology. The author has to be congratulated for this beautiful presentation of many interesting facts and large field of science which provides much for all those engaged in embryology, pathology and paediatrics.

R. Salzberg, Basel


This little volume contains some lectures which have been presented at the Fifth International Congress of Psychotherapy in Vienna (Austria) in 1961. The editor had the difficult task of choosing only few out of many interesting papers. He has managed in collecting some very good ones.

In a general part there is a lecture about “contact disturbances in infancy” (F. G. von Stockert) and about “parent treatment and outcome of child’s therapy” (A. Levy). There is a section about group psychotherapy for children and one containing two casuistics. To close the brochure there are two articles about “mental hygiene of the child” (R. Fox and J. H. Ross).

This well chosen small selection of lectures will certainly give the reader a good idea of the work done at the Vth International Congress of Psychotherapy with special regards to infants and children.

R. Salzberg, Basel


Vol. 7-8: Magen-Darm-Erkrankungen bei Kindern. II + 150 S., 65 Abb., 18 Tab. S.Fr./DM 24.-.

Vol. 9: Kinderpsychiatrie in der Praxis. II + 86 S. S.Fr./DM 12.-.

The editor has again succeeded in producing two excellent small volumes dealing with everyday-problems of the paediatrician.

In Vol. 7/8 the reader finds older and most recent aspects of diseases of the gastrointestinal system. There are papers about enzymes in gastroenterology, physiology of pancreatic secretion, new methods of investigation of the intestines, X-ray diagnosis (with beautiful reproductions of...
X-ray pictures), celiac disease, pain syndromes of the abdomen, mucoviscidosis, ulcerative colitis, protein-losing entero-pathy and diarrhoea because of defects of intestinal glycosidase-activity. The booklet is directed towards the physician in practice but it gives a lot of interesting and new material also to doctors in a hospital staff. It can be warmly recommended.

Vol. 9 deals with psychiatric problems of children. Here again the questions that are discussed are of practical value and may be met in practice at any moment. Excellent child psychiatrists write about therapy of oligophrenic children, about the work of the psychiatrist in a children’s hospital, about psychological investigation and its methods, about neurosis in childhood, about disorders of sleep and about the treatment of reactive psychic disorders in children. This volume appeals even to those usually not too much acquainted with psychiatry and gives them some useful hints.

For both volumes it must be said that the price is rather low considering how much material is presented. R. Salzberg, Basel


This is already the 9th edition of this excellent book. Again the author has revised many chapters and completed them with recent knowledge and advances, for instance the articles about liver disease, disturbances of kidney function, congenital cardiac malformations and hypertension. Many new figures and tables were added which complete the good visual impression of the reader.

A long list of symptoms is discussed. Among them may be mentioned anemia, febrile states, headache, dyspnæe, cardiac disease (including ECG-changes), hypertension, hypotension, lymphadenopathy, pain in thorax and abdomen, diarrhoea, edema, jaundice, hepatosplenomegaly and many more.

Without going into details it must be said that this volume can be recommended to every physician because it is a great help in establishing a correct and complete differential diagnosis. R. Salzberg, Basel


It is very valuable for any physician to know exactly what the most up-to-date procedures are in a moment of emergency. This book gives all the answers concerning emergencies in children. It includes diagnosis and differential diagnosis, treatment and management of problems of the cardiovascular, metabolic, genitourinary, neurological and respiratory systems. Furthermore about drownings, poisonings, accidents and care of the premature infant. All the chapters and tables are arranged for immediate reference of the interested reader. In an instructive part the authors present the most current pediatric techniques and procedures. As an addition to the second edition there are chapters about emergencies in the newborn and about psychiatric emergencies. A good poison table gives generic, commercial (American) and chemical names of common poisons with antidotes.

This book is an excellent reference for all physicians who treat children as well in an office or at a clinic. Its illustrations are good and the price is reasonable compared to the contents. R. Salzberg, Basel
This is a report of a seminar which took place at the International Children’s Centre of Paris in 1961. As many children are suffering from the sequelae of cerebral lesions acquired ante- and perinatally numerous investigations are made in order to elucidate problems not yet clear to obstetricians and pediatricians.
In the course of this volume various medical and social fields are reviewed. A lot of consideration is given to prevention of cerebral disorders before conception, during gravidity, before and after birth. Special articles about the resuscitation of the newborn are added.
Most of the problems discussed in these original papers concern both obstetricians and pediatricians, and much emphasis is put on the statement that a lot can be achieved by closer collaboration between these two medical men. Perinatal cerebral damage must be diminished because medical science and modern therapy has given them a greater chance to survive. The present book is of greatest interest to the various specialists. It also serves as an excellent reference and contains large bibliographies. The price seems adequate. R. Salzberg, Basel

This is already volume 10 of Rossi’s postgraduate courses and again he has managed in publishing articles which are extremely helpful and instructive for the practicing pediatrician. Some topics are discussed briefly which are in the center of medical and especially pediatric interest: humoral and cellular defense mechanisms, virus diseases and their classification, enteroviruses and their clinical significance, bronchopulmonary infections with adenoviruses, prophylaxis of tuberculosis in the child (discussion of the value of B.C.G.-vaccination and chemoprophylaxis), staphylo-coccal infections, brucellosis and a review of rare infections of childhood (listeriosis, toxoplasmosis, pseudotuberculosis). The booklet requires attention of all pediatricians; it can be recommended although the price seems a little bit on the high side. R. Salzberg, Basel

The importance of congenital abnormalities has increased in the past years because of the falling death-rate from other causes. It is therefore of great value to have a reference in which all the numerous syndromes and anomalies are described together. The editor has got the cooperation of many outstanding pediatricians, surgeons and research-men for the publication of this book. Most of the emphasis is laid on diagnosis and on all the measures that should be taken once it is established. Therapy is also briefly discussed. Interesting parts of the book deal with genetic implications and the aetiology of the mentioned deformities.
In ten comprehensive chapters the problems are reviewed. The incidence and aetiology, the abnormalities of the central nervous system, of the cardiothoracic, genito-urinary, gastro-intestinal systems, of abnormalities of the eye, ear, nose and throat, the skin and the skeletal system and many more. The final chapter deals with syndromes very rarely encountered. A lot of illustrations (which are on the average very good!) and tables round up the favorable impression
of this very practical guide for all doctors who work with newborns and infants whether they are pediatricians, obstetricians, surgeons or general practitioners. jR. Salzberg, Basel
The great advances in the field of biochemistry, genetics and pathology have increased the interest in the inborn errors of metabolism. The knowledge about these diseases has become more and more important because of its significance for prophylaxis and therapeutic implications.
It is always a pleasure to read a good and clear book, and it must be said that Schreier has succeeded in performing an excellent job. The chapters are thoroughly written, the bibliography and references are up-to-date. All syndromes are described and classified in the following manner: clinical picture, pathogenesis, histopathology, therapy, prognosis and heredobiology. It would take too much space to enumerate all the subjects treated in this volume. Be it said: it contains all the inborn errors of metabolism known till this day.
This book (which by the way is rather inexpensive) can be recommended without hesitation to all those interested in applied biophysiology, i.e. pediatricians, obstetricians and specialists in internal medicine, but it also gives the practicing physician a good survey. R. Salzberg, Basel