This is a survey of 134 children with mongolism who were observed and followed during the period 1945 to 1961. They all showed the typical signs of Down’s syndrome with the roentgenological peculiarities described by Caffey et al. 92 of them had some malformation of organs, especially of the heart and gastro-intestinal system. 5 children died of leukemia; this is a frequency 9 times higher than that among normal children observed during this period. 65 of the children died, mainly of diseases of the cardiovascular or bronchopulmonary systems. This study provides a lot of valuable descriptive information on the problem of mongolism. It is inexpensive. R. Salzberg, Basel

This is already the 7th edition of the world-famous textbook. Many chapters have been rewritten, older authors have been replaced by newer collaborators: chapters about social medicine, dermatology. New parts have been added treating the very modern aspects of pediatrics. The book is a recommendable textbook for students, postgraduate-training and physicians in practice although it must be criticized that the very well written chapters are not followed by an extensive bibliography which should be part of an up-to-date textbook. The price of sFr. 98.- seems reasonable.
R. Salzberg, Basel

This small volume inaugurates a new series of monographs entitled Major Problems of Clinical Pediatrics. It is a good beginning. The author has written a remarkable book. The lung of the newborn is described first in its normal state then in its many abnormal ones. Part I deals with the normal development and physiology of the fetal and neonatal lung. Part II presents a large number of well correlated details about the known disorders of the respiratory tract of the newborn. It begins with choanal atresia and discusses, besides other congenital abnormalities, infections, hyaline membrane disease, aspiration syndromes, pneumothorax, pulmonary hemorrhage and edema. This part ends with remarks about nonpulmonary causes of breathing irregularities. In Part III the resuscitation of the newborn is well presented. The volume contains many illustrative charts, diagrams, tables and x-ray pictures. Its bibliography includes 500 numbers. This book must be part of every pediatrician’s library. R. Salzberg, Basel

Volume 11/12 of Rossi’s post-graduate courses in pediatrics deals with hematological 62
problems in infancy and childhood. Nine articles, three of which in French and six as usual in German, cover interesting subjects.

After a short survey about infantile leukemias, there follow chapters about lymphocytosis and lymphopenia, erythrocytogenesis as a basis of the classification of anemias, hemolysis, aplastic anemias, structural defects of blood platelets and their function, and finally, some pages about the infantile thrombocytes close this short booklet which, it can be said, is up to now one of the outstanding ones of the whole series. The bibliography is extensive and only recent publications are mentioned, good photographs and charts round up this really inexpensive volume.

J. R. Salzberg, Basel

L. E. Holt, R. McIntosh, H. L. Barnett: Pediatrics. 13th edition, Appleton-Century-Crofts Inc., New York 1963. 1395 pp. Price US $ 18.00. This well-known volume represents the thirteenth edition of Holt’s ‘Diseases of Infancy and Childhood’, originally written in 1896 by the late L. Emmett Holt. In the meantime, there have been many revisions and re-editions and the actual volume has a respectable number of contributors from many outstanding universities of the United States [81]. The changes made in this new edition are too numerous to be enumerated. Nearly every part of the book has been rewritten extensively. Among the newly included articles may be mentioned those about aldosteronism, blastomycosis, cat scratch disease, cytomegalic inclusion disease, E CHO virus infections, head trauma and many more. A total of about 80 new subjects have been covered in this edition. Excellent figures and x-ray picture-reproductions illustrate the chapters which are followed by short and up-to-date bibliographic references. Considering the wealth of knowledge contained in the volume, the price does not seem expensive.

J. R. Salzberg, Basel

J. Lind, L. Stern and C. Wegelius: Human Foetal and Neonatal Circulation American Lecture Series, Charles C. Thomas Publ., Springfield, Ill., USA, 1964. 53 pp., 32 fig. Price US $ 5.75. This little volume is based largely upon radiographic and angiographic studies. Part I describes graphically the foetal circulation, part II deals with the subsequent evolution and changes occurring with the onset of extra-uterine life. In each section electrocardiographic findings and the dynamics of the heart itself are described. This book will serve both for teaching purposes and as a reference for obstetricians, pediatricians and all physicians concerned with the care of newborn infants.

J. R. Salzberg, Basel

J. E. Morrison: Foetal and Neonatal Pathology, 2nd ed. Butterworths, London 1963. 538 pp., 128 fig., 16 tab. Price sh. 100. This beautiful book presents a comprehensive review of disturbances arising during intra-uterine life, those due to the failure to adapt to the conditions of extrauterine life and those due to intra-uterine and postnatal infections. Recent work is discussed alongside with earlier and basic studies, the references at the end of the chapters are mostly of very recent origin. On practically each point the author gives personal views based on long experience. The text of the first edition has been completely rewritten. Good figures and diagrams complete the well written chapters. It is both an interesting and instructive book to pathologists, obstetricians and pediatricians. It will be a most useful source of reference.  

R. Salzberg, Basel

Pediatrics is the field of medicine where the application of antibiotics is especially indicated and important. The authors have discussed all problems concerned with the chemistry and pharmacology of the known antibiotics and with their specific indication in pediatrics. Special concern has also been given to newer drugs only used on special occasions. The whole book contains lectures given at a congress about problems of therapy with antibiotics in infancy and childhood. Many bibliographic indices and good figures complete this recommendable little volume. It contains a lot of valuable information and is a good help for the pediatrician in practice.

R. Salzberg, Basel

E. Rossi: Pädiatrische Fortbildungskurse, vol. 13. Tumoren im Kindesalter. S. Karger AC, Basel/New York 1964. 11 + 110 S., 24 Abb., 15 Tab. Preis Fr./DM 19.-. Prof. Rossi has again managed in editing a valuable volume containing some of his post-graduate courses in pediatrics. This time it deals with tumors in infancy and childhood. After a magnificent chapter about the pathology of malignant tumors in childhood, written by the late M. Bodian, it continues with impressive observations of O. Schweissguth (Paris) about the diagnosis of tumors. H. Käser is concerned with the biochemical differential diagnosis of neuroblastoma, and, finally, the therapy (surgery and/or biochemistry) is discussed by some members of the staff of Prof. Rossi. A recommendable and inexpensive volume.

R. Salzberg, Basel

L. B. Holt: Pediatric Ophthalmology. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia 1964, 403 pp. The editor and authors have to be congratulated on this delightful book. It will be a great help to all physicians, especially to pediatricians and general practitioners who see many children. It shows clearly how pediatric ophthalmology differs from adult ophthalmology. It tells how to recognize and treat and when to refer visual defects in infants and children. It combines the knowledge of 32 authorities in this field. It emphasizes early diagnosis of amblyopia or strabismus and the need for prompt treatment. For the first time recent advances in the field of eye tissue transplantation, intraocular lenses and other things are presented in a book of this type. It will be a good and helpful guide to all its readers.

R. Salzberg, Basel


This monography tries to give us methods and dates in order to evaluate physical ability and disability of children and young adults. It shows installations and arithmetical forms and makes it possible to measure quantitatively the physical status of healthy and sick children. Many of the author’s own experiments illustrate nicely the theoretic background. This book belongs to the library of everybody who is interested in measuring physical capacities and possibilities. The price seems adequate.

R. Salzberg, Basel

This already classical textbook about “Die Eigenart der kindlichen Hirntätigkeit” has now been translated into English after the original German publication in 1949. The translators have done a good job in maintaining the essential characteristics of Peiper’s style and his expressions. In many chapters the cerebral function of the newborn and infant are discussed in the light of physiological experiments and findings concerning animals. The author has tried to develop special experimental methods appropriate for this stage of life in order to gain knowledge of the laws governing the human brain function.

This book will certainly be of great value to pediatricians, child psychologists and psychiatrists. The price seems reasonable. R. Salzherg, Basel

Erik Sandøe: Congenital Isolated Ventricular Septal Defect. 218 S. Munksgaard, Copenhagen 1963.

This valuable monograph deals in detail with the interesting problem of ventricular septal defect. After a short historical introduction the author analyzes his case material of 87 patients. Then the technique of hemodynamic studies is described. Chapter five and six are devoted to the study of hemodynamics at rest and during exercise, in the following part the reader will find a carefully discussed correlation of the hemodynamic data with pathological anatomy, auscultation, phonocardiography, electrocardiography and roentgenologic findings. The last two chapters of this book consist of the description of the course and natural history of patients with ventricular septal defect. This part is of special interest, since repeated cardiac catheterizations on a not previously operated case material will become more seldom. At the end of this book the reader will find tables which summarize the hemodynamic data of the 87 patients examined. The monograph will be a valuable reference for all those interested in cardiological problems. F. Wyler, Basel


These methods have been widely used in adults, the systematic application of dye dilution technique in children was not yet done before. This careful study furnishes normal values for the children age group, the variability in evaluation of the curves due to different injection technique is discussed. A special chapter deals with dye dilution curves simultaneously registered with the valsalva maneuver, a method which is especially useful for the detection of atrial septal defects. This monograph, clearly arranged and with instructive figures, is certainly of interest for all pediatric cardiologists. F. Wyler, Basel