tions. It is an extremely useful publication and is recommended as essential equipment to every laboratory where biological staining is done, especially pathology laboratories.

Chemistry of Digestive Diseases
by John R Gamble MD and Dwight L Wilbur MD
American Lecture Series No. 431
pp xiv+120 illustrated 36s
Springfield, Ill.: Charles C Thomas
Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications 1961
This book aims to provide clinicians with a picture of research in the chemistry of digestive diseases. ‘Chemistry’ is interpreted widely to include the physiological role of substances such as gastrin, 5-hydroxytryptamine and cortisone in the control of gastric secretion and the metabolic disturbances resulting from abnormalities of the gastro-intestinal system. A wide range of digestive disorders is mentioned, from peptic ulceration to malabsorption syndromes, and the consequences of medical and surgical treatment. As a result, most are discussed rather superficially and traditionally accepted views are given much more weight than recent developments which challenge them. The result is a book which contains much of interest and value but which fails either to be of use in the day-to-day management of patients or to direct attention to some of the more interesting aspects of recent clinical and physiological research.

Disease in Infancy and Childhood
by Richard W B Ellis OBE MA MD FRCP
3rd ed pp vii+714 illustrated 55s
Edinburgh & London: E & S Livingstone 1960
The scope of the intermediate-sized textbook of pediatrics is always difficult to define. The author may be cramped by questions of cost, and the proportion of space devoted to illustration is a matter for nice judgment. It may be said at once that this book excels in the amount of information it packs in for a very moderate price. This is partly achieved by Professor Ellis’s gift for lucid and condensed description. He manages to make the essential points in a surprising number of rare conditions as well as the common and important ones. The reader already possessing practical knowledge of pediatrics will find here and there the omission of points helpful to the clinician, such as a description of heart failure in infants and its management, the dosage of digoxin and something on the interpretation of electrocardiograms. Congenital syphilis, a rarity for the British paediatrician, rightly retains its place in a book destined for world-wide circulation.

One of the sound features of the book is the very large proportion devoted to diseases of the newborn. It is copiously illustrated and not one picture could be said to have missed its point. Of those in colour the two-page illustration of retrolental fibroplasia, however beautiful, might perhaps have been devoted to something else as this is surely almost a disease of the past.

The list for further reading at the end of each chapter makes this an excellent reference book for students of pediatrics at all levels.

The Medical Annual 1961
edited by R Bodley Scott MA DM FRCP and R Milnes Walker MS(Lond.) FRCS
79th issue pp iii+610 illustrated 42s
Bristol: John Wright 1961
This year’s ‘Medical Annual’ follows the usual well-established and highly successful pattern. The special articles are on Human Chromosome Abnormalities, the Management of Paraplegia, Microsurgery and Psychoactive Drugs. The publishers draw attention to an important error in Table 3 (page 41) in which the dose of tranquilizer drugs is given in grams instead of milligrams.

This volume will be extremely useful and maintains the high standard its editors have already set.

Cerebral Infarction: The Role of Stenosis of the Extracranial Cerebral Arteries
by Peter O Yates and Edward C Hutchinson
pp viii+95 illustrated 14s
London: Her Majesty’s Stationery Office 1961
This report describes the pathological findings in 100 patients diagnosed in life as suffering from cerebral ischemia not due to hemorrhage. It is a reflection of the well-known difficulty in clinical diagnosis that in 28 cases hemorrhage was in fact found.

The cerebrovascular tree from the aorta to the brain was examined radiographically and by dissection. Cerebral infarction was found in only 35 cases. Stenosis or occlusion due to atheroma or thrombosis of the extracranial vessels was found in 32 cases, of the intracranial vessels in only 19. Shock, after surgery or trauma, and severe coronary atheroma were common contributory causes. There are several causes of cerebral infarction which makes medical or surgical treatment difficult and success will depend upon exact diagnosis.

The Exercise Electrocardiogram in Office Practice
by E Grey Dimond MD FACP
pp ix+169 illustrated 80s
Springfield, Ill.: Charles C Thomas
Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications 1961
This book consists of a discussion of the value and limitations of taking an electrocardiogram after exercise in the diagnosis of angina. It contains records from 68 patients. The tracings are well