

him sick through goal-directed interview," or "Abdominal viscera are able to function normally regardless of their position, and organ ptosis per se is of no clinical significance," or "Most surgeons are somewhat leery of operating upon . . ." and so on.

This book falls between the comprehensive work of reference and the more readable volumes on gastro-enterology, of which there are several now available. Its price in this country is very high.

ALASTAIR G. MACGREGOR.

Clinical Haematology

Diagnosis and Treatment of Blood Diseases. By M. C. G. Israëls, M.D., M.Sc., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 125 + vii; illustrated. 35s.) London: William Heinemann. 1964.

This simple little book succeeds admirably in presenting the elements of clinical haematology in a form sufficiently concise and dogmatic to satisfy the least demanding medical student. The book is said to be designed for practising physicians and postgraduate students, but many, if not most, of these will wish to start where the book leaves off, and in any case would be likely to find themselves irritated both by the oversimplified treatment of many complex topics and by the frequent occurrence of minor errors. For undergraduate clinical students, however, the book has much to recommend it. It is clearly written, and while covering a great deal of ground in small compass, yet remains very easy to read. Apart from the generality of blood disorders, the book deals also with certain tumours of lymphoid tissue, though not with the more obviously neoplastic ones such as lymphosarcoma. The author's talent for concentrating on elementary essentials and his own wide clinical experience at Manchester give the book its most valuable quality—practical common sense.

F. G. J. HAYHOE.

Bone Tumours

Atlas of Bone Tumors. Including Tumor-like Lesions. By W. S. Gilmer, jun., M.D., F.C.A.P., G. B. Higley, jun., M.D., and W. E. Kilgore, M.D. (Pp. 165; illustrated. 206s.) St. Louis: C. V. Mosby. London: Henry Kimpton. 1963.

This volume describes material collected and studied while the senior author was on the staff of the division of pathology and microbiology of the University of Tennessee and pathologist to the Campbell Clinic and Hospital. Its aim is to provide a brief but fully illustrated account of bone tumours and related conditions.

The text provides a concise, readable, and accurate account of the subject. As an atlas, however, it is by the illustrations that the book must be judged. There are 310 figures, most of them radiographs and photomicrographs. The photomicrographs are almost all in colour: many are excellent, although some are poor. Both photomicrographs and x-rays suffer from being too small: space on many of the illustration pages could have been used to better advantage by having larger pictures and less empty space. Despite this, the book should be a useful one,

particularly for those—whether pathologists, radiologists, or surgeons—who are relatively unfamiliar with the subject. Jaffe's textbook still remains the final word on the subject, and the section by Ackerman and Spjut in the Armed Forces Institute's *Atlas of Tumour Pathology* is the most convenient quick reference for radiographic and pathological appearances.

H. A. SISSONS.

Medico-legal Reflections

Final Diagnosis. By Professor John Glaister. (Pp. 224; illustrated. 25s.) London: Hutchinson. 1964.

There has just passed from the medico-legal scene and into retirement one whose name is a household word—namely, Professor John Glaister. For a very long period he has been one of the foremost exponents of medico-legal skill in this country, if not in the world, and his fame is in part at least due to his writings.

He now adds to his long list of publications a book of memoirs under the title of *Final Diagnosis*. This book is obviously written for popular as well as for medical consumption. Nevertheless, it will interest all those engaged in the practice of forensic medicine and will fascinate practitioners in other spheres of medical activity who have been students of either "old John" or "young John" as well as appeal to the general reader. The book is written very well, as one would expect of someone who has a magnificent command of the English language, and it contains many interesting illustrations. It gives an attractive picture of John Glaister, senior, and describes fully life and work in Egypt, which must have been a wonderful place for the maturing practitioner to gain wide experience. It is worthy of note perhaps that both the author and his near contemporary, Sir Sydney Smith, graduated, as it were, from the Egyptian medico-legal school.

It is interesting to refresh one's memory of details of the author's *causes célèbres*, and one finds the account of Scottish medico-legal work under wartime conditions absorbing. The book contains details of many humorous episodes, interspersed with grim tales, and it is very up to date in giving an account of activation analysis, the latest addition to the forensic scientist's armamentarium.

This book can be safely recommended to anyone—medical, legal, or lay—who is in search of an interesting account of a busy life well spent in useful service to the community.

G. FORBES.

Medical Geography

Some Aspects of Medical Geography. By L. Dudley Stamp. Heath Clark Lectures. (Pp. 103; illustrated. 21s.) London: Oxford University Press. 1964.

In many branches of medical research, and in particular in the investigation of the natural history of diseases, the geographical distribution is of great value. As the author states, "A map reveals a pattern and poses the question, Why?" It is therefore helpful that a distinguished geographer should have

put his thoughts on medical geography on paper through the medium of the Heath Clark lectures. In stressing the importance of maps he gives a number of examples in the text both of world-wide distribution of certain diseases and also of local and regional distributions.

Professor Stamp deals extensively with the effect of climate on health and stresses the importance of man-made climate in houses, offices, and factories. Also in relation to environment he indicates the importance of regional variations in climate, a matter often neglected by the planners when siting some new urban development. The text is also interspersed with interesting personal reminiscences which have occurred in connexion with climate and health during the author's lifetime.

He concludes with a plea for greater use of the techniques of geography in the study of disease, and I think this is something that will receive the approbation of everyone engaged in medical research.

ANDREW B. SEMPLE.

Readings in Psychology

Readings in Psychology. Edited by John Cohen. (Pp. 414. 52s. 6d.) London: Allen and Unwin. 1964.

The twenty-three contributors to this book are mostly the elder statesmen of British psychology. Here are past, or potential, presidential addresses by professors.

In no sense a textbook, it offers an unusual breadth of topic, from the philosophy of perception to the problems of industrial relations, from information theory to psychopharmacology. I enjoyed best Sir Cyril Burt's short biography of that inquiring genius, Sir Francis Galton; B. V. (now Lord) Bowden's lively comparison of human and electronic calculating prodigies; and the translated discussion by Paul Fraise of the optimum level of emotion for peak efficiency—let the level be too low and we do not try hard enough, let it be too high and our skill becomes disorganized.

Whatever their special field of work, provided it were to include an interest in living things, there could be few medical men who would not find some refreshment among the quiet riches that lie within the pages of this book.

IAN OSWALD.

Medicine in Africa

Medicine and Custom in Africa. By Michael Gelfand, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R. (Pp. 174 + viii; illustrated. 21s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1964.

In addition to outstanding contributions to knowledge of a variety of diseases seen and investigated by him in Southern Rhodesia Professor Michael Gelfand has found time to write articles and books of fascinating interest on the pioneering and the progress of medicine in that area and of the figures concerned with it. This small work adds to the scope of the latter aspect of his activities, and is a collection of his introductory lectures to first-year medical students at the University Col-

lege of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The subject matter is referred to by Professor Gelfand as medicine and custom in the African, or "medical anthropology" as he prefers to call it; in fact it is even wider in that it includes an account of the origin of man, which may well in fact have been in Africa. There is an outline of the steps by which religious cults and medical practices have developed in concert with the evolution of the means of maintenance of life from the earliest stage of hunting and collection of edible roots to the period of stock-breeding and soil cultivation. Magic takes a prominent place in primitive populations; its role in the causation of disease and in its cure naturally leads to a consideration of the witch doctor or African medicine man. The witch doctor is conventionally depicted by the sensation monger as entirely corrupt and evil; Professor Gelfand deprecates this sensationalism; he considers that witchcraft is a philosophical cult affording an explanation of cause and effect, and it provides an interpretation of the inexplicable; witchcraft, in any event, is not confined to Africa. The African medicine man lays claim to inherited supernatural guidance for his talents; he resorts to the use of bones and other equipment for divination, as well as for diagnosis and treatment. He may be a herbalist, treating not only with herbs but with animal products; the latter are not uncommonly prescribed symbolically—for example, the eating of a lion's heart to give courage. The ethical standards obtaining between rival medicine men are very high, and indeed are an example to Western doctors; but there is no consultation between them, and this largely accounts for their failure to progress in knowledge.

In the later chapters of this book there is an account of the methods of rearing children

in different African communities, and of traditional African dietaries and food habits; the diets of most African groups share the common feature of lack of animal products. The customs associated with birth, marriage, and death, all major events of life, vary from area to area in Africa. The author's long and close study of the African in Mashonaland shows that these customs all emphasize the very close attachment to one another of members of the Shona family—a most admirable feature of their life and one in which the Shona are markedly superior to the European of to-day. The influence of contact with Western culture, the socio-medical effects on the African of its adoption, the effect of urbanization on the African, and the probable future development of life in African communities as a result of these and other factors are discussed with knowledge and wisdom. Fascinating reading for itself, this small book contains a remarkable wealth of information essential to the proper understanding of the African races. It can heartily be commended to any European or other visitor to Africa who wishes to enlarge his comprehension of that continent and its inhabitants.

A. R. D. ADAMS.

Travelling Physician

Journal of a Younger Brother. The life of Thomas Platter as a medical student in Montpellier at the close of the sixteenth century. Translated and introduced by Séan Jennett, with a foreword by Jack Lindsay. (Pp. 275; illustrated. £2.) London: Frederick Muller Limited. 1963.

Loss of the confessional was, for many Protestants in the sixteenth century, com-

pensated for by keeping a journal. As a therapeutic exercise it had added assets greater than now: a verbal and visual record could be kept for the family. Events could be assembled into a pattern, and, for a collector, notes of gardens could be kept. Thomas Platter's journal was just such a one. Lodged to-day in the university library of his home town of Basle—1,608 folios with diagrams, maps, and engravings—some of it has been exhumed and translated by Séan Jennett to provide an account of Platter's travels to and from the notable University of Montpellier, where he obtained the baccalaureate of medicine in 1597 by explaining and arguing against the professors the proposition, *An ulcerum medicatio sit exsiccatio*, and his doctorate in the following year by expounding and commenting on Galen's book *De arte parva*. The day before he took his doctorate he took a large number of licentiates, bachelors, and students of medicine to the pastry-cooks, where, as he said, "I furnished the cost of food and drink so that they might be the more punctual at my examination and give me their support."

Platter went to other medical examinations on his travels. At the University of Barcelona he even argued against the candidate and was offered copies of the theses together with a pair of gloves of perfumed skin, both of which he sent back to Basle. Nor were these the only objects he collected. Seeds, garden implements, and curios of all kinds he records, together with anecdotes and fragments of legend. He was a shrewd diagnostician of social customs too, and his observations on the various towns in southern France and Spain would make this book entertaining bedside reading for those on the Costa Brava run this summer.

W. H. G. ARMYTAGE.

Books Received

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Aluminium. Its Applications in the Chemical and Food Industries. By Paul Junière and M. Sigwalt. Translated from the French by Winifred C. E. Barnes, B.A. (Pp. 267+xiii. 55s.) London: Crosby Lockwood. 1964.

Nursing of the Elderly Sick. Practical Handbook of Geriatric Nursing. By T. N. Rudd, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 131. 15s.) London: Faber and Faber. 1964.

Industrial Injuries. Their Prevention and Treatment. By Donald F. Featherstone. (Pp. 154+ix; illustrated. 32s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright. 1964.

Anaesthesia for Patients with Endocrine Disease. Edited by M. T. Jenkins, M.D. (Pp. 234+xiii; illustrated. 40s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1963.

Being-in-the-World. Selected Papers of Ludwig Binswanger. Translated and with a Critical Introduction to his Existential Psychoanalysis by Jacob Needleman. (Pp. 364. 52s. 6d.) London: Basic. 1964.

Clinical Investigation in Medicine: Legal, Ethical, and Moral Aspects. An Anthology and Bibliography. Edited by Irving Ladimer, S.J.D., and Roger W. Newman, LL.B. (Pp. 507+x. No price quoted.) Boston: Law-Medicine Research Institute. 1963.

Standards for Morale. Cause and Effect in Hospitals. By R. W. Revans. (Pp. 134+xvi. 7s. 6d.) London, New York, and Toronto: Oxford University Press. 1964.

Questions and Answers in Ophthalmology. By Harvey D. Wright, B.Sc. in Phar., M.D. (Pp. 354+ix. \$10.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

What is Sportsmedicine? By Ernst Jokl, M.D. (Pp. 86+vi. \$4.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Coronary Heart Disease. A Personal, Clinical Study. By Harold Feil, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 148+xi. \$6.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

The Fight Against Leprosy. By Patrick Feeny. (Pp. 191; illustrated. 25s.) London: Elek Books. 1964.

Clinical Neurology. By Lord Brain, D.M., F.R.C.P. 2nd edition. (Pp. 400+ix; illustrated. 38s.) London: Oxford University Press. 1964.

Stress and Release in an Urban Estate. Study in Action Research. By John Spencer. With the collaboration of Joy Tuxford and Norman Dennis. (Pp. 355+xiv. 45s.) London: Tavistock. 1964.

Studies on the Electrocardiograms of the Racehorse. By J. D. Steel, B.V.Sc. (Pp. 48; illustrated. £A.2 2s.) Sydney: Australasian Medical Publishing Company Limited. 1963.

Nurse's Guide to Anaesthetics, Resuscitation and Intensive Care. By W. Norris, M.D., F.F.A.R.C.S., and D. Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S. (Pp. 116+vii; illustrated. 20s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1964.

Ergebnisse der Medizinischen Strahlenforschung. New series, Vol. 1. Diagnostik. Therapie. Nuklearmedizin. Biologie. Edited by H. R. Schinz, R. Glauner, A. Rüttimann. (Pp. 561+xi; illustrated. DM. 160.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1964.

Hals-Nasen-Ohren-Heilkunde. Ein Kurzgefasstes Handbuch in Drei Bänden. Vol. 1: Obere und untere Luftwege. Edited by Prof. Dr. med. R. Link. (Pp. 948+xx; illustrated. DM. 224.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1964.

Some Medical Aspects of Mathematical Biology. By Nicolas Rashevsky. (Pp. 314+xxiii; illustrated. \$12.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Meniscluslaesion. Praktische Probleme der Klinik, Arthrographie und Therapie. By Dr. P. Rickli, Dr. A. Rüttimann, and Dr. M. S. Del Buono. (Pp. 156; illustrated. DM. 48.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1964.

Vascularization, Oxygen Tension, and Radio-curability in Cancer of the Cervix. A Colpographic, Polarographic, and Clinical Study. By Per Kolstad, M.D. (Pp. 152; illustrated. 45s.) Oslo: Universitetsforlaget. London: Dawson. 1964.