

to chapter XII, which contains an analysis of the relative malignancy of various groups and sub-groups.

The following chapters give clear descriptions of combined tumours, interstitial-cell tumours, Sertoli-cell and miscellaneous tumours, malignant lymphomas, and inflammatory lesions simulating malignancy.

The chapter on hormone investigation in cases of testicular tumours is a brief review of a branch of the subject which is likely to be of more importance in the future.

The long-term follow-up of a big series of cases such as this is bound in the end to lead to a better understanding of the pathology and treatment of testicular tumours. In the meantime the chief value of this book is that it will help hospital pathologists to classify testicular tumours with a greater degree of uniformity.

C. E. DUKES.

Parasites of the Heart

Parasites of the Human Heart. By B. H. Kean, M.D., F.A.C.P., and Roger C. Breslau, M.D. (Pp. 186 + xi; illustrated. \$5.00.) New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1964.

It was an original idea to select, as these authors have done, a particular organ and to devote a book to the parasitic animals which may infect and seriously damage it. We have several excellent textbooks on the structure and biology of parasitic animals as a whole and the diseases they may cause but few which deal with them from the point of view of the specialist whose main concern is a specific organ. Parasitologists, moreover, when they think of parasitic infections of particular organs tend to think first of such organs as the liver, the lungs, and the blood, which contain rich food supplies for the parasitic animal or the oxygen it may need. Less often do they think of parasitic infections of the human heart. Yet, as this book shows, an impressive array of parasitic animals, as distinct from viruses, bacteria, and fungi, with which this book does not deal, may attack and seriously damage the human heart, either by directly invading it or by influencing it from other sites, such as the intestine, which they normally inhabit. This book is limited to species which do invade the heart, its orifices, or its coverings.

Section A deals with the protozoan parasites of the heart—namely, the malarial parasites, *Leishmania*, both the African and South American trypanosomes, ; *T. cruzi*, the cause of South American trypanosomiasis, showing, the authors point out, an extraordinary cardiotropism which is unmatched by any other parasitic animal; *Entamoeba histolytica* and *Balantidium* which normally inhabit the large intestine; *Toxoplasma* and the Sarcosporidia.

Section B discusses the parasitic Metazoa, which may affect the human heart in various ways—among trematodes, species of *Schistosoma*, *Heterophyes*, and *Paragonimus*, and among the tapeworms, cysticerci, hydatids, and *Spargana*; among the nematodes, *Trichinella spiralis*, *Trichuris*, *Strongyloides*, *Ascaris*, hookworms, and the filarial worms. Section C gives an account of two unidentified parasites of the human heart.

The book thus gives an exhaustive account, illustrated largely by figures reproduced from original research papers, of all the parasitic animals which may affect the human heart. It will be useful not only to the cardiologist but also to practitioners who may have to make difficult diagnoses. Many readers, even when they are parasitologists, may be astonished by the number and variety of the species which may affect the human heart. The authors are to be congratulated on the way in which they have concentrated into relatively few pages, all well written, so much clinical and pathological information. The book will no doubt be most useful to the cardiologist and the practitioner in the tropics, but even in the United Kingdom, where many of the species here discussed are not endemic, the rapid increase of immigration and rapid transport all over the world may well provide the practitioner to an increasing degree with cases similar to those discussed in this book. The bibliographies which conclude each chapter are valuable features; without them the reader might find it difficult to discover and consult the numerous research papers here assembled.

G. LAPAGE.

Pharmacology

An Introduction to Pharmacology. 3rd edition. By J. J. Lewis. Foreword by Stanley Alstead, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.Glasg., F.R.S.E. (Pp. 1048 + xvi; illustrated. £3 3s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1964.

It would appear that the time has come to aim an *Introduction to Pharmacology* carefully at the group of students for which it is meant. Pharmacology during the last decade has developed as a science subject in its own right. That is to say, many of its aspects are only indirectly of interest to the future clinician though of great interest to the "pure science" student concerned with the cellular mechanisms of the action of drugs. In practice, therefore, there are two groups of students to be considered. First the medical (and veterinary) student, and secondly the science student working for an honours degree and the pharmacist whose main (fourth year) subject is pharmacology. There can be little doubt that "introductions" for both groups will have to cover much common ground, but the emphasis and to a considerable extent the choice of details should be different.

Lewis's book is obviously very suitable for the second group of students, being comprehensive, up to date, and clearly written. It contains also a fair amount of information about the clinical uses and the toxic side-effects of drugs, but this information is not infrequently arranged in a way which will make it difficult for the medical student to appreciate it. The section on anticoagulants may serve as an illustration. The rapid action of heparin is duly recorded but it is not stressed that therein—in contrast with the slow-acting coumarin group—lies its peculiar therapeutic virtue.

There is another consideration which makes it difficult to recommend this book to a medical audience. The teaching of pharmacology to medical undergraduates has become more difficult because of the great number of

potent drugs available. There seems to be only one solution if one does not want to burden the student's memory unduly—namely, to select one or two well-tryed compounds in each group and to illustrate the mode of action of the whole group by these examples. What is the medical student, at this stage of his medical career, to do if—as in this book—he is faced, for example, with 29 of the "commoner atropine-like compounds" or with 24 drugs of the adrenaline group? Such lists are no doubt very valuable for the student of pharmacy interested, for instance, in structure-action relationships, and they are useful for reference. It is in this capacity, as an introduction to scientific pharmacology, that the book can be recommended. The present edition has gained much by including a bibliography of review articles after each chapter.

H. HELLER.

Mental Handicap

Your Mentally Handicapped Child. By W. Lumsden Walker, M.D., D.P.H., D.P.M. (Pp. 56; illustrated. 5s.) London: National Association for Mental Health. 1964.

Parents of mentally handicapped children, to whom this pamphlet is addressed, face a long-term problem in the management and care of their offspring, who can never share life on equal terms with their fellows. Once the father and mother have got over the shock of knowing that their child will not develop fully, they can cope, provided they understand their complex task. They must train themselves to ask the right questions about their child, and so be able to act sensibly without constant frustration and self-blame.

Dr. Lumsden Walker knows very well the domestic and social perplexities with which such parents are faced. He writes with sensitivity, and he has the knack of putting matters simply without using technical terms. Generally the family doctor will be involved and he will find this booklet full of practical wisdom.

E. A. BENNET.

Anatomy and Diseases of Skin

Science and the Skin. By A. Jarrett, M.B., M.C.Path., F.R.C.P.(Edin.). (Pp. 167; illustrated. 12s. 6d. paperback. 21s. boards.) London: English Universities Press. 1964.

This small volume sets out to describe first the mechanisms of the functional anatomy of the skin and secondly to explain some dermatological affections and treatments in the light of that knowledge. There is much that is of interest, but the book is not altogether successful in either objective, and it is not well or attractively or convincingly written.

The first section combines a rather elementary description of anatomy with some proved facts but some speculative ideas which seem inappropriate and often unacceptable in such a work. The author points to many fallacies in present investigative procedures, but it is