

in both male and female is discussed, and both mechanical and hormonal forms of contraception. A final section contains reviews on such varied subjects as immunoassay of peptide hormones, idiopathic oedema, ectopic hormones, and the renin-angiotensin system.

Few indeed are the endocrinologists who will not find abundant instruction and enlightenment in this volume. It is such a comprehensive and authoritative work that it will surely become an essential companion to endocrine studies, and an invaluable guide to the more recent literature. Considering how much it contains it is not expensive.

CUTHBERT L. COPE.

New "Operative Surgery"

Operative Surgery. General Principles and Breast. 2nd edition, Vol. 1. Edited by Charles Robb, M.C., M.D., M.Chir., F.R.C.S., and Rodney Smith, M.S., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 304 + xiv; illustrated. Vols. 1-6, subtitled General Surgery, £50. Full 14-vol. set, £97.) London: Butterworths. 1968.

Many surgeons throughout the world are familiar with the volumes which comprised the first edition of *Operative Surgery*, and they will be interested to find that an up-to-date second edition has just become available. Volume 1, devoted to general principles and the breast, sets the same high standard as before. Not only have all sections been revised and recent advances included, but completely new sections have been introduced dealing with such subjects as the general planning of operating-theatres, techniques of needle biopsy, the treatment of missile wounds, hyperbaric oxygen, the separation of conjoined twins, and techniques of organ transplantation. As before, the many contributors have been selected because of their considerable experience, and this provides authoritative reading.

The aim of this series of volumes is to give surgeons real practical help in the performance of procedures with which they might not otherwise be familiar, being out of their usual field. It is also hoped that it will assist surgeons in training. As in the previous edition, liberal use is made of illustrations, particularly artists' drawings. These illustrations are all of a high quality, and although they are numerous none would seem to be superfluous. Each is capable of conveying an important message in a manner which could not be achieved by text. In fact, the relative economy of words coupled with well-chosen clear illustrations is a particularly successful means of describing the many procedures, both simple and complex.

There is thus every reason to welcome on the medical scene this first of the new series of operative surgery books, and it is to be hoped that they will find their way on to many medical library shelves. However, some comments must be made about price, which I consider excessive. These volumes are essentially practical books, and ones to which individual surgeons would wish to make repeated reference. It is most unlikely that many individuals will be able to find £97 from personal funds to purchase the full fourteen-volume set, or even the £50 for

volumes 1-6. It would be a great pity if those who would clearly benefit from these eminently desirable books are denied them by the single factor of cost. It seems likely, however, that this will be the case.

IAIN E. GILLESPIE.

The Law, Psychiatry, and Crime

The Mentally Abnormal Offender. A Ciba Foundation Symposium. Edited by A. V. S. de Reuck and Ruth Porter. (Pp. 260 + xii. 60s.) London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1968.

The change in the penal services from a custodial-retributive to a re-educative-therapeutic orientation has gathered momentum in the last two decades. In Britain the Mental Health Act 1959 empowered the courts to refer offenders to conventional mental hospitals, and psychiatric treatment has been introduced into the prisons.

The problems arising from these changes provided the stimulus for the organization of this symposium, at which British forensic psychiatrists compared notes with their colleagues from Scandinavian countries, Belgium, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, and the United States. The result was an interesting survey, a lively discussion of the treatment of mentally disordered offenders, and an appraisal of recent legislation. Though the number of offenders admitted to conventional mental hospitals was small, there was agreement among the psychiatrists concerned that legislation had outrun existing facilities and that unsuitable cases had sometimes to be admitted. At any rate, most of the abnormal offenders admitted through court order were rather unpopular in the public mental hospitals, especially those with psychopathic disorder requiring conditions of security. This is not surprising, as the admission of this type of patient runs counter to both the open door and the "revolving door" policy which encourages short stay in hospital with an increased prospect of readmission. The problem of the implementation of the sections of the Mental Health Act dealing with abnormal offenders was aired thoroughly and provisions for aftercare were criticized as inadequate.

Determinate versus indeterminate sentence and criteria of dangerousness of abnormal offenders were also discussed. The suggestion was made that the recommendation for the discharge of mentally abnormal offenders should be vested in special tribunals. Follow-up studies have shown that the discharge rate of such offenders is smaller than is sometimes assumed. Only a very small fraction of serious criminals, including sex offenders, have a tendency to recidivism, but their identification still presents problems. Typical mental illness and mental subnormality are only rarely responsible for major crimes. The role of epilepsy in criminality has been grossly exaggerated. Endeavours to integrate psychiatry and the law, such as the Grendon Psychiatric Prison, where offenders serve fixed sentences, promise to bridge the gap between psychiatrists and jurists. A more liberal policy towards the mentally abnormal offender, as practised in Denmark, Belgium, and

the Netherlands, seemed to have improved understanding between the two professions.

If the purpose of a conference like this is the exchange of information and views on an international level, and the airing of discontents, this symposium was a very successful one. The book can be highly recommended to everybody concerned with offenders in need of psychiatric attention.

E. STENDEL.

Lessons of War

Surgeon in the Crimea. Edited by Victor Bonham-Carter, assisted by Monica Lawson. (Pp. 269 + xiv; illustrated. 35s.) London: Constable. 1968.

Those of us who are in our seventies can remember youthful encounters with Crimean veteran amputees, survivors of what has been called the most pointless war in history. To the younger generations the words Raglan, Balaclava, and Cardigan merely suggest articles of clothing. The Crimean war was perhaps the most heavily documented and debated campaign on record and was notable for the part played by William Howard Russell, war correspondent of *The Times*, in moulding public opinion and in arousing indignation against neglect and inefficiency.

This little volume consists of the bright and chatty letters sent home by Dr. George Lawson, a young medical graduate from King's College Hospital, who took service as a staff assistant surgeon at the beginning of the campaign, landed at Gallipoli in 1854, and passed on to the Crimea, where he was present at the battle of the Alma and at the siege of Sebastopol. It has been edited by a professional historian with the help of a granddaughter of George Lawson, and provides a readable connected narrative of the whole campaign.

The Crimea was, of course, sheer hell, with deficient supplies, no hospital ships, no transport, no warm clothing, and with ever-present cholera, dysentery, and gangrene. George Lawson lived for months in the clothes he stood up in, slept on the frozen ground, and cut off arms and legs galore on the cold earth without a table of any sort. At dusk, shortage of candles stopped the endless amputations—without chloroform, of which the Medical Inspector-General did not approve—but they started again at daybreak. Acute thirst was a problem and painful scorbutic gums interfered with the chewing of mainly uncooked rations. George Lawson developed typhoid fever with severe haemorrhages but survived, only to go down with typhus fever. He was invalidated home in a sailing ship partially paralysed by polyneuritis but still in good spirits. Although expected to die young Lawson survived into the present century, attained great eminence in London as a general and ophthalmic surgeon on the staffs of the Middlesex and Moorfields hospitals, and was held in high regard by his colleagues and juniors.

There are lessons to be learned from the neglect of Army organization after a prolonged period of peace, and from the utter contempt of the patrician fighting officers for the supporting supply and medical departments.

This book is admirably produced, is very well written and indexed, and as an account

of what a sensitive human being can stand without being broken in spirit is well worth reading. It is most appropriately dedicated to the late Major-General R. E. Barnsley, until recently curator of the R.A.M.C. historical museum.

GEORGE R. MCROBERT.

Further Reviews on Immunology

Modern Trends in Immunology—2. Edited by Robert Cruickshank, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.Ed., F.R.S.Ed., and D. M. Weir, M.D. (Pp. 342+viii; illustrated. £3 10s.) London: Butterworths, 1967.

The second volume of this excellent series selects for review subjects that are both topical and fundamental. The immunological problems raised by organ transplantation are probably an important stimulus to the present intensive study of the cellular immune responses, and this book includes chapters on the mode of action of immunosuppressive

agents and on the role of the macrophages and lymphocytes.

Both the phagocytic macrophages and the small lymphocytes appear to exhibit several varieties which could not be distinguished by their histological appearance, though they each have their separate functions in the initiation or maintenance of the immune mechanisms. These cell types are now being separated from each other by fluorescence and electron microscopy and by new physico-chemical means. New in-vitro methods for testing the competence of these cells in human patients are making it possible to tackle the problems of altered cellular immunity in diseases, and also provide important means of examining new immunosuppressive agents.

Another very interesting topical development in immunology is the discovery of the IgE class of immunoglobulins and their role in allergy. There is a general review of immunoglobulins, their metabolism and functions, and a chapter dealing with the pharmacological mediators of hypersensitivity, including histamine, the kinins, slow reacting substance of anaphylaxis, and lymph node permeability factor. The chapters on bacterial and viral antigens and on adjuvants will be of interest to microbiologists and epidemiologists. White cell and platelet antibodies

are being recognized in transfusion reactions, and the importance of their antigens in tissue typing adds to their interest. This contribution by the French immunohaematologists J. Dausset and J. Colombiani has suffered somewhat in translation.

The addition of regular reviews on immunology as applied to clinical problems to the *Modern Trends* series has been welcomed by everyone interested in this growing field.

DEBORAH DONIACH.

Richard Gordon takes the adventures of the hero of his last novel (*The Facemakers*, reviewed 18 November 1967, p. 409) a stage further in *Surgeon at Arms*. He describes the inception and development of a unit where men whose faces had lost any likeness to human beings, mainly from burns sustained in air battles, were restored to at least semblances of their former selves.

This main theme is sustained in the guise of a biographical account of the central character, an irascible and somewhat unsympathetic surgeon of the breed admired by those who enjoy the fictional exploits of doctors. The great contribution made by plastic surgeons during the second world war is clearly portrayed. It is published by Heinemann (pp. 300: 27s. 6d. net).

Books Received

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

Familiar Medical Quotations. Edited by Maurice B. Strauss, M.D. (Pp. 968+xix. 125s.) London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1968.

Beyond the Therapeutic Community. Social Learning and Social Psychiatry. By Maxwell Jones. (Pp. 150+xxii. 58s.) London: Yale University Press. 1968.

Cell Structure. An Introduction to Biological Electron Microscopy. By Peter G. Toner and Katharine E. Carr. (Pp. 190+viii; illustrated. 40s.) Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1968.

Addiction and Opiates. By Alfred R. Lindesmith, Ph.D. (Pp. 295+vii. \$7.50.) Chicago: Aldine Publishing Co.

American Heart Association Monograph. No. 18: The National Diet-Heart Study Final Report. (Pp. 428+x; illustrated. \$3.50.) New York: American Heart Association. 1968.

American Heart Association Monograph. No. 19: Cardiovascular Surgery, 1967. Edited by Dr. C. Frederick Kittle. (Pp. 217; illustrated. \$3.) New York: American Heart Association Inc. 1968.

Proceedings of Fourth World Congress of Psychiatry. Part 3. Free Communications. Edited by J. J. Lopez Ibor. (Pp. 1354-2226+xv; illustrated. £12 11s.) Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica Foundation. 1968.

Institute of Psychiatry, Maudsley Monographs. No. 18. The Classification of Depressive Illnesses. By R. E. Kendell, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. (Pp. 102+vii; illustrated. 40s.) London: Oxford University Press. 1968.

Design and Operation of Evaporators for Radioactive Wastes. Compiled by Y. Yamamoto, assisted by N. Mitsuishi and S. Kadoya. (Pp. 115; illustrated. £1 0s. 10d.) Vienna: International Atomic Energy Agency. 1968.

Coude, Infections Ostéo-Articulaires, Pied. By R. Judet. (Pp. 214; illustrated. 64 F.) Paris: Masson & Cie. 1968.

Surgical Pathology of Gynecologic Disease. By Cary M. Dougherty, M.D. (Pp. 690+xi; illustrated. \$35.) New York: Harper & Row. 1968.

Anesthesia for Infants and Children. 3rd edition. By Robert M. Smith, M.D. (Pp. 530+xii; illustrated. 157s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1968.

Anxiety and Neurosis. By Charles Rycroft. (Pp. 159+xii. 30s.) London: Allen Lane, The Penguin Press. 1968.

Sickness and Society. By Raymond S. Duff, M.D., and August B. Hollingshead, Ph.D. (Pp. 390+xiii. £5 6s.) London: Harper & Row. 1968.

Actualités Hématologiques. Edited by Jean Bernard. (Pp. 258. 40 F.) Paris: Masson & Cie. 1968.

Modern Perspectives in World Psychiatry. Edited by John G. Howells, M.D., D.P.M. (Pp. 787+xxxvi; illustrated. £8 8s.) Edinburgh and London: Oliver & Boyd. 1968.

Structure and Function of Inhibitory Neuronal Mechanisms. Edited by C. von Euler, S. Skoglund, and U. Söderberg. (Pp. 563+ix; illustrated. £9 5s.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1968.

The Biochemical Approach to Life. By F. R. Jevons, M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 226; illustrated. 21s.) London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd. 1968.

Atlas of Diseases of the Oral Mucosa. By J. J. Pindborg. (Pp. 215; illustrated. D.Kr. 225.) Copenhagen: Munksgaard. 1968.

Paediatric Cardiology. Edited by Hamish Watson, T.D., M.D.(Ed.), F.R.C.P.(Ed.), M.R.C.P.(Lond.). (Pp. 996+xx; illustrated. £13.) London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1968.

A Synopsis of Endocrinology and Metabolism. By David G. Ferriman, D.M.(Oxon.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.), and Ian C. Gilliland, M.D.(Edin.), F.R.C.P.(Lond. and Edin.). (Pp. 160+vii; illustrated. 30s.) Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1968.

Problèmes Actuels Relatifs à la Nutrition et à la Diététique. Edited by M. Dérot, H. Bour, and G. Héraud. (Pp. 219+vii. 50F.) Paris: Masson & Cie. 1968.

Atlas of Haematology. By George A. McDonald, T. C. Dodds, and Bruce Cruickshank. 2nd edition. (Pp. 212+viii; illustrated. £5 5s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1968.

Home on the Neva. By Herbert Swann. (Pp. 192; illustrated. 36s.) London: Victor Gollancz Ltd. 1968.

International Histological Classification of Tumours. No. 2. Histological Typing of Breast Tumours. By R. W. Scarff and H. Torloni. (Pp. 20+illustrations. £4 16s.) Geneva: W.H.O. 1968.

Isotopes and Radiation in Parasitology. Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic Energy in Food and Agriculture. (Pp. 157; illustrated. £1 9s. 2d.) Vienna: International Atomic Energy Agency. 1968.

The Care of the Rheumatoid Hand. 2nd edition. By Adrian E. Flatt, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 234+xiii; illustrated. 126s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1968.

Health Services in Israel. Edited by Th. Grushka, M.D. (Pp. 455+xix; illustrated. No price given.) Jerusalem: The Ministry of Health. 1968.

Encyclopaedia of Cybernetics. Translated from the German *Lexikon der Kybernetik*, by G. Gilbertson, B.A. (Pp. 214; illustrated. 50s.) Manchester University Press. 1968.

The Drugs You Take. By S. Bradshaw, M.B., Ch.B. (Pp. 255. 5s.) London: Pan Books Ltd. 1968.