

that it is very difficult to follow. He read the first sentence of the preface six times:

For anyone who works in the psychiatric field and who refuses to allow his critical awareness of what he is about to be numbed or engulfed by the institutionalizing processes of formal training and day-by-day indoctrination in the teaching hospital or psychiatric hospital, a number of disturbing questions arise. The reviewer still does not understand it. Those who do may wish to read the rest of the book.

Man alive. A survey of human physiology. G. L. McCULLOCH. London Aldus Books. 1967. Pp. 156. Price 32s. 6d. Distributed by W. H. Allen & Co.

This is an up-to-date survey of the current ideas in physiology. For casual reading by the interested layman it is excellent but as a textbook for school children it fails because at no time does Dr McCulloch give experimental evidence for his statements. Nevertheless, as an introduction to biology for the interested school child who is as yet uncertain where his future lies it will be most useful. The illustrations and presentation are so good that they will attract the interest of anyone who happens to glance through it.

An introduction to medical genetics. Fourth edition. J. A. FRASER ROBERTS, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.S.C., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. London, New York, Toronto. Oxford University Press. 1967. Pp. xii+290. Price 25s. paper covers; 38s. cloth boards.

We reviewed the second edition of this book in 1959. The format remains much the same. New material has been added to this edition without making it too bulky. It still remains a very good book for practitioners who have an interest in genetics.

The genetics of gastro-intestinal disorders. R. B. MCCONNELL, T.D., M.D., M.R.C.P. London. Oxford University Press. 1966. Pp. vii + 282. Price 70s. 0d.

"Genetics isn't everybody's cup of tea"—sentiments of this kind are heard all too often, but this book, the second in the Oxford series on Medical Genetics, is a healthy corrective. The pattern of illness seen by family doctors is in part determined by social and environmental factors but undoubtedly the genetic composition of the population composing the practice influences it greatly. As presented in this book genetics is seen to be good clinical medicine with a slant towards the unusual, either in terms of presentation or association of cases and the practitioner who is alerted will find much interest in reviewing the case-notes of families on his list. He, of all observers, is best placed to know the family in all its relationships and it is strange that most of the work described shows indications of its hospital origin. The clinical descriptions are clear and easy to read. Genealogies of affected families are represented by conventional diagrams and each chapter is followed by a comprehensive list of references which should satisfy the needs of any newcomer to the subject. The book will enable the practitioner to identify the unusual occurrence in his practice and show him where he may usefully follow his interest up. The research-minded