

non, but for many cases, surely the easily accessible family doctor is the expert on the spot. These are small criticisms of a little book which will be most useful to the intelligent patient or his near relatives.

Understanding Bronchitis and Asthma. ROBERT KEMP, T.D., M.D., M.R.C.P.
London. Tavistock Publications. 1963. Pp. vii + 109. 17s. 6d.

In this small book Dr Kemp offers instruction and advice to those with enough education and intelligence to understand and enough humility and insight to accept and profit by them.

The nature and interrelation of chronic bronchitis and asthma are described in good plain English, with a minimum of technical terms, but no 'writing down', and their causes are considered and assessed.

Dr Kemp thinks little of medicines, skin tests, desensitizers, aerosols, blame fixing, passivity and despair and thinks well of avoiding irritating smokes, postural drainage, education in breathing—with practising of what is learnt, exercise and active occupation and especially of full recognition of the frequent and potent emotional factors in asthma and honest search for them, chiefly by the patient himself.

A book to recommend to intelligent patients with a genuine desire to be well and the will to help themselves towards health.

Broken Long Bone. Its Bionomics and Man. ROBERT T. MCELVENNY,
M.D. Illinois, U.S.A. Charles C. Thomas. 1963. Pp. vii + 292.
Price \$11.50.

This book contains much that is of great value. It is obvious that the writer is a teacher of considerable experience who has developed a dogmatic style and has very decided views on treatment and surgical procedure. He enjoys creating axioms, and has included a large number in this book. Unfortunately, he has drowned many of them in so much circumlocution that the book is difficult to read. It is definitely not a bedside story.

It is stated that the intention of this work is to give guidance to the beginners, and food for thought to the experienced individual who is largely concerned with traumatic surgery. It is agreed that some of the contents are quite elementary, and put forward in a refreshing manner, but it is the reviewer's opinion that the controversial nature of the book makes it more suited to the surgeon of mature judgment. His arguments for and against the closed or open method of treatment of fractures are worth the attention of all teachers of orthopaedic surgery, as are his views on healing and the treatment of wounds.

It is a stimulating book but of doubtful practical value to the family doctor of this country. The doctor who takes an intelligent interest in the follow-up of all his cases of trauma should find it an interesting philosophical study.