

which will prove useful to medical students. Although intended for students this book will be good value for money to any general practitioner who wishes to refresh his knowledge of modern gynaecology.

Electrocardiography. S. G. OWEN, M.D., F.R.C.P. London. The English University Press Ltd. 1966. Pp. 180. Price 40s. 0d.

When the control of the medical schools by the General Medical Council was relaxed, Newcastle on Tyne moved ahead with speed in modifying the curriculum and introducing modern teaching methods. This book, which is an example, is a programmed text for self-tuition in the principles of electrocardiography and the interpretation of electrocardiograms. It is divided into four sections and the instruction is scrambled . . . that is, it cannot be read straight through like a conventional textbook. At the end of each section multiple choice questions are asked and depending on the reader's answer he is directed to another section on a different page. When the answer is correct he proceeds; when wrong, explanation is given and he is referred back to the previous section which clearly requires further thought. The method ensures that reading is slow and deliberate. For those of us who have grown accustomed to reading quickly and rather cursorily it is a salutary experience and a pleasant reminder that we are still able to learn if we would only take the trouble.

At first it is a little distracting to be referred from section to section, backwards and forwards through the book, and on putting the book down it is not enough to remember the page number, one must also note the last section read, otherwise it is difficult to find the place. These minor disadvantages are inseparable from the method of teaching and are soon accepted as a small price to pay for the very real advantages.

The book is well illustrated and is exceptional for the clarity with which the theory and practice of electrocardiography are presented. There is a good index and the book can be used for reference in the ordinary way.

Group practices are increasing in number and in most the need for an electrocardiograph becomes apparent sooner or later. The doctor who makes himself responsible for the electrocardiography needs training and experience which cannot be obtained by self-tuition, but the others who require rather less competence seldom find just the book they need. No other book on electrocardiography reviewed in this *Journal* can compare, even remotely, with this as a medium for self-tuition or be so strongly recommended to the general practitioner.

A guide to cardiology. Second edition. J. C. LEONARD, M.D., M.R.C.P., and E. G. GALEA, M.R.C.P., M.R.A.C.P. Edinburgh and London. E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1966. Pp. xii+306. Price 35s. 0d.

The first edition of this book, published in 1961, was very favourably reviewed in this journal. It has now been extensively re-written and brought up to date. The sections on electrocardiography, cardiac catheterization,