

Chemistry and therapy of peptic ulcer. DAVID C. H. SUN, M.D., D.S.C. Illinois. Charles C. Thomas. 1965. American Lecture Series. Pp. v + 238. Price \$8.50.

There are many in practice who like, from time to time, to look backwards and see just how the subjects which they studied in their training years have caught up with them. One treats a condition for many years and in one's own eyes achieves reasonable results, oblivious that progress is being made all the time and that scientific justification may now be found for actions undertaken quite empirically.

This is a 'take you back' book for the practitioner who wishes to know what has happened to the stomach that he once dissected, and he will find that he has plenty of leeway to make up. To him, as to the post-graduate gastro-enterologist, it is a resumé of the state of our knowledge of the anatomy, physiology and function of the stomach, together with an account of the latest views on medical treatment of its ulcers. In the early chapters on anatomy and physiology of the organ will be found refinements of the cellular structure demonstrated by new staining techniques, followed by full accounts of the components of various gastric secretions. The function of the gastric mucus is fully discussed. Many of the studies described are of animal work, and the international literature has been thoroughly scrutinized. To the postgraduate student the list of references to published work will be an extremely valuable feature. Twenty-seven pages are devoted to this list and if any practitioner is inclined to take himself back in fuller detail, herein lies his opportunity.

The book, from an American publishing house, is excellently produced and handles comfortably. One simple proofing error only was observed by the reviewer.

Shoulder pain. RENE CAILLIET, M.D. Philadelphia. F. A. Davis Company. Oxford. Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1966. Pp. xi + 115. Price 24s.

This is the third in a series written by Dr Cailliet, the others being *Low back pain syndrome* and *Neck and arm pain*. It is directed mainly at 'the daily clinician'. Shoulder pain must be one of the most common symptoms encountered in general practice, usually indicating a condition of low mortality but high morbidity. The title should therefore be an appealing one to the general practitioner. The fact that the book is published in paper back form seems to indicate that it should be readable rather than used for reference. In this aspect the author has not quite succeeded—although one could say that it is almost worth while wading through the first third of the book which is entirely taken up by descriptive anatomy in order to reach the clinical section. Some of us might disagree with a few of the statements made in the section relating to the psycho-therapeutic aspects of the treatment of 'the frozen shoulder' but, nevertheless, it is encouraging to see this discussed in a book which is mainly orthopaedic.

The book is liberally illustrated with line drawings and there is a long bibliography. Americanisms are rare enough not to distract, although