

logical norms which is well-indexed and easy of access. Altogether a most useful work, and well up to the standard of other volumes in this series.

Surgery in infancy and childhood. Second edition. W. M. DENNISON, M.D., F.R.C.S. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967. Pp. xvi + 597. Price 70s. 0d.

The title of this book *Surgery in infancy and childhood*, may well suggest to the general practitioner that it is a specialized work not intended for him. If he has this impression, and does not read it, he will miss an experience both pleasurable and profitable. This book describes generally surgical diseases of infants and children and their treatment, and is not a manual of operative surgery. It is based on lectures and demonstrations designed for final-year students of the Glasgow Medical School and has a freshness of approach which stems from the fact that it represents personal views and was originally delivered 'live'.

Chapters I-IX are on general topics. They are written in an attractive style, with a strong tincture of common sense, and matters are not allowed to get out of proportion. Chapter I, on Surgery in Infancy and Childhood, gives a general view of the subject, dealing with the difference between children and adults, their reaction to trauma and infection, and similar topics. The advice it contains is of great value, and the same applies to Chapter IV, Surgery in the Newborn, which contains a survey of neonatal surgical conditions and emphasizes the importance of early diagnosis and treatment, especially for certain congenital lesions. Chapters VI and VII, on Trauma and Infection also make good general reading.

Chapters X-XXV deal with the subject in more detail on a regional basis. Chapter XI, Abdominal Pain in Infancy and Childhood is a helpful contribution on a symptom which is often difficult to interpret, and where misinterpretation may lead to tragedy. Chapter XVIII on The Thorax and Chapter XIX on The Head contain much useful information not always to be found in one place.

The general lay-out of the book is pleasing. The illustrations are good, and have the added virtue of showing what they are meant to show. One small criticism—the paper is so glossy that it reflects the light and tends to interfere with easy reading. This is an excellent book, well worth reading. More than that, it is a book to keep, and therefore well worth buying.

A short textbook of psychiatry. W. L. LINFORD REES, B.S.C., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M. London. English Universities Press Ltd. 1967. Pp. x + 305. Price 25s. 0d.

Recently my young cousin returned from a student's psychiatric internship at an American hospital. His command of psychiatric terms was such that I had to shield behind a wall of anecdotes. I decided to read a textbook of psychiatry as a means of defence. Next day I received a psychiatric textbook to review.

The author states that psychiatry is a generality as well as a speciality because it is indispensable in all branches of medicine and surgery. Psychology is given considerable emphasis (85 pages), likewise, genetics and social psychiatry are emphasized. Psychosomatic medicine is given 21 pages; child psychiatry 13 pages and mental subnormality 15 pages and the doctor-patient relationship is emphasized throughout. All varieties of treatment are used and discussed, psychotherapy, psychopharmacy, physical treatment, social and occupational therapy and rehabilitation. The book is up to date. The only word is psyc-