

delic; childhood autism is discussed and even the dose of L.S.D. is given.

Unfortunately the book doesn't appear to be what the foreword suggests it is. Rather than a textbook I feel it could be called a textopsis for it is somewhere between a text and a synopsis. Indeed the book is largely figures, classifications, tables, headings, sections and sub-sections, and most paragraphs are short. I find staccato reading difficult. Indeed it took me nearly two months to read the book at the rate of a few pages a night. Nevertheless it is stated that the book is better used in conjunction with a general text. A few selected references are given for the main features at the end of each chapter.

It is stated that the book is aimed at students, and young doctors. The book was shown to a newly-qualified doctor who said 'good God I would never tackle this!' This 300 page paper-back is in line with other books of the same series on medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology. It sells at only 25s., and is worth it if you like your facts served up neat.

Emergencies in medical practice. Eighth edition. C. ALLAN BIRCH. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967. Pp. xvi + 852. Price 60s. 0d.

This excellent book is filled with detailed practical advice covering all the conceivable emergencies which come the way of the practising doctor. Your reviewer dipped into it tentatively, having a few minutes to spare, and an hour or so later had to rush off to catch up again with a full schedule. It was very difficult to lay the book down.

In the whole of the time spent upon it only two minor criticisms could be found. It is not sufficiently stressed that cooling the skin alone is inadequate in heat stroke and that a cold atmosphere must be breathed and/or cold irrigation of the stomach or colon carried out. Your reviewer knows this from practical experience in three cases. Two of the legends under the diagrams on page 175 seem to have got interchanged—but these are minor matters. This is certainly a book which every doctor should possess.

The new way to live with diabetes. CHARLES WELLER, M.D. AND BRIAN RICHARD BOYLAN. William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. Pp. 94. Price 16s. 0d.

This is a book about diabetes written for the intelligent patient—the intelligent American patient in the first instance for there are indications that the book has been modified for the British reader, not with complete success. The novelty which the book claims in its title resides in the recognition of diabetes of three types, insulin-dependent, overweight diabetes and diabetes occasioned by stress. The first two categories are well recognized in this country but some would doubt the existence of the third. The descriptions are good and clearly expressed with the kind of illustrations that attract the lay reader. Some of the procedures in which the patient is assumed to become competent are elaborate and sophisticated and advice on self-adjustment of insulin dosage as well as diet routine would be difficult for many to follow. All would agree, however, with the book's repeated insistence that with adequate self-discipline and control the modern diabetic can live a normal, full and satisfying life.
