

pictures of inflamed ear drums; rebound tenderness indicates local peritoneal involvement as well as general peritonitis and is therefore an extremely useful early indication that a possible case of acute appendicitis should be admitted to hospital; a complaint of muscular weakness is an early and often confusing symptom of Parkinson's disease.

This book will still provide a reasonable introduction for the student to the classical type of clinical medicine practised by the general physicians in hospital but it fails to appreciate that as the judgement of hospital physicians becomes less dependent on clinical signs and symptoms, so early diagnosis in general practice is one of the main fields in which clinical symptoms and signs remain of paramount importance.

Pathology. Second edition. J. L. PINNIGER, M.A., D.M., M.R.C.P. Revised by J. R. TIGHE, M.D., B.SC., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.P.E., M.C.PATH. London. Baillière, Tindal and Cassell Ltd. 1967. Pp. viii+279. Price 21s.

This textbook is one of the series published by Baillière and is intended to meet the need of the student for concise and readable books, providing him with the essential subjects he is studying. They are intended to be of value to the student in helping him gain a sense of proportion towards the subject and to give him a grasp of its fundamentals which may not be so easily acquired from larger textbooks. This large pocket-sized edition has a linen cover, 279 pages, and embraces the subject well. It is easy to read, well set out, and has a good index. Many improvements have taken place since the last edition in 1964. There are no footnotes, bibliography or photographs. There are five diagrams and a few useful tables. This book is intended to act as a supplement to a standard textbook on pathology. In this, it achieves its aim. It may also be useful to the general practitioner who wishes to grasp fundamentals of this subject once again. The established practitioner would probably require a large standard textbook for his bookshelf.

Postgraduate medical education: Retrospect and Prospect. JOHN REVANS, C.B.E. and GORDON McLACHLAN, C.B.E. London. Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. 1967. Pp. 50. Price 2s. 6d.

The efficiency of the National Health Service must be directly related to the opportunities provided for the postgraduate education of doctors in all branches of medicine. Since the conference called by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1961, various aspects of postgraduate education have been discussed in the journals and at meetings throughout the country. Despite this mental activity, surprisingly little has occurred in the form of action. The appearance of the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust's report* is timely, in it developments in postgraduate education since 1961 are reviewed, and suggestions are made concerning the organization that is now required throughout the country.

The "Recommendations as to Basic Medical Education" by the G.M.C. in 1967 made it quite clear that further education after qualification is needed before a doctor can practice any branch of medicine. It has been suggested that the G.M.C. should undertake the task of maintaining rolls of doctors trained to work in the various specialties, and this would include general practice.

What is urgently required is a national organization to put postgraduate education on a sound practical footing. Much is hoped for from the Central