

The record has also been devised so that physical, neurological and social development can be charted with minimal burden to the physician himself. It will therefore prove most useful where doctor, health visitor and secretary work as a unit—though this is not essential.

Supplies of this record card are available to any doctor interested in its use, from: the secretary, Records and Research Advisory Unit, Royal College of General Practitioners, Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, Hagley Road, Birmingham, or Dr H. J. Wright, "Woodlands", Nailsea, nr Bristol.

It is hoped that the experience of such doctors may in time define common problems which are at present inadequately recognized.

Nailsea.

H. J. WRIGHT.

Jenner museum

Sir,

Dr J. L. Loakes has pointed out in his letter (published in the *Journal* of April 1968) that Benjamin Jesty, a Dorset farmer, vaccinated his wife and children some 20 years before Dr Jenner carried out his first vaccination.

Dr E. A. Underwood and Dr A. M. G. Campbell refer to this in their booklet "Edward Jenner, the man and his work", published by the Jenner Trust. Jesty did not inoculate his wife and children with smallpox after the vaccination, to prove their immunity nor did he (nor anyone else before Jenner) have any notion of perpetuating the cowpox from one human being to another. In this regard it is to be noted that Jesty vaccinated directly from the cowpox lesion in a cow, and Jenner from a similar lesion affecting the dairy maid, Sarah Nelmes. Jesty's wife nearly died, perhaps from a faulty technique leading to septicaemia, following the vaccination, this, maybe, being one of the reasons which led Jesty not to publicize his experiment.

Jenner put vaccination on a scientific basis, and is honoured as its original and greatest advocate. The Jenner Museum, in Berkeley, seeks to illustrate this.

Berkeley.

G. L. WYLIE.

Book Reviews

Essentials of fluid balance. Fourth edition. D. A. K. BLACK, M.D., F.R.C.P. Oxford and Edinburgh. Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1967. Pp. 182. Price 30s.

This book is a well presented approach to an inherently complicated subject, and while not a practical bed-side manual does well in its exposition of the principles involved. New advances in terminology are clearly explained, e.g. the latest concept of acids and bases as proton-donors or acceptors clarifies the issue of their chemical and ionic relationships. In general practice, understanding of fluid and electrolyte balance is helpful when dealing with malnutrition, renal