

Contraceptive technique. Third edition. HELENA WRIGHT, M.B., B.S. London. J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1968. Pp. viii+96. Price 10s.

This is the third edition of this handbook which aims at being a guide to doctors wishing to give advice on contraception. In the eight years which have passed since the second edition was published two main advances in contraceptive technique have occurred: 'the pill' and the intra-uterine device, i.e., 'the loop'. Details of both of these methods are given, but rather sketchily, one chapter each compared with seven devoted to vaginal caps and diaphragms, these being dealt with more than adequately. Very useful chapters are included on how to compare and evaluate different techniques and also on unreliable techniques. The author would have produced a far more useful book had she written in greater detail about the pill and the intra-uterine device, which are more and more in demand to replace the inconvenient and rather outdated vaginal diaphragms and caps.

Family planning. Second edition. J. F. ROBINSON, M.B., Ch.B. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1967. Pp. 72. Price 5s. 0d.

This is a useful little booklet for the young mother, describing the methods employed in family planning.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Fit for life. H. BERIC WRIGHT, M.B., F.R.C.S., G. PINCHERLE, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P. and AL MURRAY, M.S.R.G. London. Evans Brothers Ltd. 1968. Pp. 160. Price 6s. 0d.

Neurophysiological and behavioural research in psychiatry. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 381. Geneva. W.H.O. 1968. Pp. 33. Price 6s. 0d.

Specifications for the identity and purity of food additives and their toxicological evaluation: some flavouring substances and non-nutritive sweetening agents. Eleventh report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 383. Geneva. W.H.O. 1968. Pp. 18. Price 4s. 0d.

Structure and function of membranes. British Medical Bulletin. Volume 24. Number 2. May 1968. Price 40s. 0d.

This number is devoted to the microanatomy and physiology of the cell. Practitioners who wish to keep up to date in the basic sciences will find much of interest in this synopsis, which covers a wide field of medical science.