

problem of motivation. At the present time the voluntary nature of postgraduate training for general practice requires a high motivation on the part of those who will undertake it. Yet it must be remembered that much of the conditioning referred to in this volume will have taken place by the time people enter training programmes. Any who are involved in the construction of training programmes should learn of educational aims and objectives and the author gives good definitions of these, often misunderstood, terms.

Thus, the book is easy to read and despite its length contains within its covers a comprehensive survey and discussion which will be valuable for any seeking information over a wide field.

The hypertensive vascular crisis. F. B. BYROM, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.A.P. London. William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1969. Pp. xii + 131. Price £1 10s. 0d. (£1.50).

This interesting and comprehensive monograph by an acknowledged expert is easy to read and should be of value to any clinician. It is concerned with the clinical problem of hypertensive encephalopathy and its mechanism, and whilst an understanding of this may be rather academic from the point of view of the general practitioner's daily work as compared to the specialist physician, reading this monograph can do no harm.

The author presents firstly the clinical problem and then goes on to discuss at length the experimental evidence on cause and effect which he finds to be inextricably mixed up. He then presents experimental evidence to support his hypothesis that the condition of encephalopathy, which he prefers to call the hypertensive vascular crisis, is related to patchy dilatation and damage of the smaller arterioles from the increased intravascular pressure. Vasoconstriction also plays an important part in the histological picture. The text is illustrated by good microscopic photographs to demonstrate the points made in discussion.

Finally the monograph ends with a restatement of the author's thesis and this is followed by an appendix. The experimental animal used by the author in his investigations was the rat and in this appendix he describes the general care of the animal, anaesthesia, operations and methods of blood pressure recording. Thus these last four pages are only of interest to the experimental worker.

This book is the type of monograph that an

interested general practitioner would prefer to borrow from a medical library rather than possess to keep on his own bookshelves.

Anovulatory infertility. DAVID FERRIMAN, D.M., F.R.C.P. and B. T. DONOVAN, PH.D., D.S.C. London. William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1969. Pp. ix + 114. Price 25s. 0d. (£1.25).

This excellent monograph of one hundred pages gives a clear, concise summary of the endocrinology of infertility in the female. The book is sensibly planned with physiology at the beginning, clinical syndromes in the middle and treatment at the end. The chapters on physiology (by Dr B. T. Donovan), contain an easily understood review of this complex subject. A list of abbreviations used for the names of the hormones is included so that the amateur endocrinologist will have no difficulty in distinguishing between FSH and HFSH.

With this book as a guide, the general practitioner should be able to make an accurate diagnosis and give rational treatment based on an understanding of the pathology involved. The author gives detailed guidance and lays down definite lines of treatment with gonadotrophins and clomiphene while not minimizing the gaps in our knowledge. One must agree with the condemnation of the 'do-nothing for two years' attitude of some gynaecologists when faced with an obvious hormonal disturbance. The use of the word 'blockade' in place of the more usual 'blockage' when discussing the Fallopian tubes was the only jarring note in this most readable book. It would be worth the price of 25 shillings for the references alone.

Books received

Early detection of cancer. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 422. Geneva. World Health Organization. 1969. Pp. 35. Price 6s. 0d.

International drug monitoring. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 425. Geneva. World Health Organization. 1969. Pp. 24. Price 4s. 0d.

Developments in fertility control. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 424. Geneva. World Health Organization. 1969. Pp. 36. Price 6s. 0d.

Pocket prescriber. Eighteenth edition. A. G. CRUIKSHANK, F.R.C.G.P. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1969. Pp. vii + 303. Price 10s. 0d.