

**You and Your Baby.** A "Family Doctor" Special. Edited by HARVEY FLACK. The British Medical Association, pp. 84, 13 illustrations, five diagrams.

This paper backed booklet is addressed to the expectant mother. It is distributed through maternity and child welfare centres, not sold by booksellers, and the editor's foreword assumes that the reader will have received it from her doctor. It consists of twenty articles most of which have appeared in "Family Doctor", written by sixteen experts, nine being fellows or members of Royal Colleges. Not all of the authors are "well known to your doctor", as the editor claims.

The subject is covered very thoroughly and the expectant mother will find useful advice on most if not all the problems likely to worry her. As is almost inevitable in a collection of this sort, there is overlap and repetition here and there, but no serious contradiction. Much less time will be needed for explanation and advice by the family doctor and his midwives if this booklet is provided for their patients, but they should read it first for they may not approve of all the advice therein. For instance, it is by no means universally accepted that only second and third babies should be born at home, and the statement that a baby born four weeks before term has about the same chance of survival as one born at term is frankly untrue ("about" can hardly be held to cover a sevenfold increase in mortality), and might create difficulties for the family doctor who wishes to transfer such cases from the district to hospital for delivery.

**Letters to an Expectant Mother.** W. I. C. MORRIS, F.R.C.S.ED., F.R.C.O.G. *A Family Doctor Booklet* (British Medical Association).

This pamphlet is published by the British Medical Association and intended for intelligent lay readers. It is packed with detail about pregnancy and its complications, and written in acceptable and reassuring terms. It should be of great help in many instances where a busy doctor has insufficient time to talk at length to his patients.

**RH-Negative.** R. A. ZEITLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. *A Family Doctor Booklet* (British Medical Association). Price 1s. 0d.

This attractive booklet explains the problems of Rh group complications of pregnancy in terms which most laymen will easily follow and understand. It is reassuring in tone, and can be confidently recommended to patients.