

ful paper, fatigue-free print and crisp illustrations. This is a book to be bought, not borrowed, and thumbed well in the midnight hours.

Demonstrations of Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery. HAMILTON BAILEY, F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S., F.R.S.E. Thirteenth edition. Bristol. John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1960. Pp. iv + 928. Price 75s.

This book has become, over the years, a classic and the latest edition has been enlarged and the illustrations, which have always been a feature, are quite outstanding and always in or near the reading matter they concern.

The author quotes Professor Logan Clendening as saying "Clinical diagnosis is an art, and the mastery of an art has no end, you can always be a better diagnostician".

It is quite certain that the general practitioner will be a better diagnostician if he read this book and studied the 1,142 illustrations.

The tendency today is to rely on laboratory findings in the quest of a diagnosis whereas if the general practitioner will use his eyes, his ears and his hands first, the laboratory or x-ray department will, in the great majority of cases, confirm that his findings are correct.

The two chapters on common and less common acute abdominal conditions and that on abdominal and pelvic injuries, if read and studied, will save the general practitioner endless worry and anxiety on countless occasions.

An excellent book for the general practitioner.

Psychiatry: Descriptive and Dynamic. JACKSON A. SMITH, M.D., F.A.C.P. William and Wilkins Co., Baltimore. Baillière Tindall and Cox Ltd. London. 1960. Pp. i + 342. Price 56s.

This is an ambitious book, by the clinical director of the Illinois State Psychiatric Institute; it is intended both for students and physicians. It is wide in its sweep but unequal in execution. For instance, there are biographical notes on physicians interested in mental illness from Hippocrates onwards, including Jung and Adler, but none on Freud, though his dynamic theories are the subject of a whole chapter.

Differing theories of illness are described, but the author's own bias is not made clear. Besides chapters on the signs, symptoms

and treatment of the psychoses and neuroses, there are others on alcoholism, mental deficiency, epilepsy and emotional problems in the geriatric patient, this last being excellent.

The description of electro-convulsive therapy as being only sometimes modified by muscle relaxants and anaesthesia differs from common British practice. The style, though generally lucid, is not graceful, and many sentences begin 'Too', meaning 'In addition'. This comprehensive survey has its merits, but is not to be recommended without reservation.

Social Rehabilitation of the Subnormal. HERBERT C. GUNZBURG, M.A., PH.D., F.B.P.S.S. London. Baillière, Tindall and Cox, Ltd. 1960. Pp. v + 263. Price 27s. 6d.

This book by the director of psychological services at Monyhull Hospital, Birmingham, is a fascinating piece of work which shows how much can be done by men devoted to their task. It is concerned with the dullards, the subnormal adult persons who have become social failures, and indicates what can be done for them, both by institutional training and treatment, and in adjusting them to society after they leave their institution. The author is obviously an enthusiast, and his work is much more interesting than the title suggests.

In this country about 52,000 people are cared for in hospitals for the subnormal. Some 7,000 await admission, while more than 80,000 are under some form of supervision outside the hospitals. The most reliable reports from this and other countries suggest that from one to one and a half per cent of the population are sufficiently subnormal to be classified as mentally defective. For these 30 to 35 in the average doctor's practice this book will ensure that the correct course of training and treatment is advocated. Traditional prejudice has often made workers in this field believe that their time and energy is wasted in trying to cope with the problem. Dr Gunzburg shows clearly the schemes of work and therapeutics available for subnormals who can be rehabilitated for their return to the community at large, even though their tested intelligence may be in the "imbecile" range, and those subnormals who show "psychopathic disorder".

The chapter on "Counselling the delinquent and the maladjusted" is a model of its kind and could be read with advantage by all family doctors, local authority officers, probation officers, welfare workers, mental health officers, magistrates, and teachers, to whom much of the book is also directed. There have been many disquieting reports in the sensational press on the alleged mismanagement of the