

public or by the medical profession.

This little book, as Sir Arthur Porritt in his foreword states, is a challenge to doctors and other interested people.

General practitioners are amongst the worst offenders who slump at their work and a perusal of this book will possibly benefit their own well being and certainly that of their patients.

The illustrations by Mrs Audrey Besterman are quite excellent and deserve special commendation.

Control of Communicable Disease in Man. An official report of the American Public Health Association. Ninth edition. New York. 1960. Pp. i + 234. Price 7s. 6d.

This book is not a report in the sense with which we are familiar with the term. It is a compendium of information on epidemic diseases and the sanitary measures which may be taken to control them throughout the world. It is a book for the bookshelf, and for reference when occasion arises, rather than light reading by the evening fireside.

This, the ninth edition of a work that has already made its mark and been translated into nine languages, is the result of a five-yearly revision of an earlier volume and contains new material some of which will be of value to workers in this country. In particular the adenovirus diseases—now coming under the scrutiny of the Epidemic Observation Unit—receive appropriate attention.

The section on terms and definitions is worthy of study by practitioner epidemiologists since the phraseology is international and the definitions are already in widespread use. Future revision will no doubt contain accounts and definitions of the as yet undefined virus diseases which the College is investigating and if we learn to think in the accepted terms as we work the assimilation of our results and actions based thereon will be the easier.

A Survey of Staphylococcal Infections of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissues in General Practice in Australia. A. JOHNSON, PHYLLIS M. ROUNTREE, KATHERINE SMITH, N. F. STANLEY and K. ANDERSON. *The National Health and Medical Research Council*. Special Report Series No. 10. Canberra. 1960.

In 1958, a survey was carried out on the incidence of *Staph. aureus* in lesions of soft tissues in 2,164 patients seen by doctors in general practices in 19 localities situated throughout Australia.