

Circulatory Ulcers. HILTON G. TRANCHELL, B.D., M.C.S.P. and CHARLES BANNISTER, M.C.S.P. Bristol. John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1960. Pp. v + 91.

This slim little volume is well set out and illustrated. It has been written by two physiotherapists from Paddington General Hospital, one of whom was a prisoner of war of the Japanese in Borneo, and who himself suffered from and helped to treat ulcers in others.

The book is addressed to students of physiotherapy, and there is much repetition in the text which is wearying for the general practitioner reader. There is, however, no doubt about the genuine understanding of the misery which many of these patients have suffered.

The general aetiology of leg ulcers is clearly and thoroughly covered. This part of the book could be read with profit by trainee practitioners. Many surgeons and older practitioners would wish for a more critical appraisal of the medicaments used, and doctors without special knowledge of physiotherapy would find it difficult to pick out the clear indications for massage, ultrasonics, ultra violet light, short wave diathermy, ionization, and radiant heat.

What the book fails to reveal is that there are many cases of varicose ulcer which will heal without recourse to physiotherapy, provided the mechanics of their production is understood; these cases can be cured in the surgery.

The Eye in General Practice. C. R. S. JACKSON, M.A., B.M., M.CH., D.O.M.S., F.R.C.S. Second edition. Edin. and Lond. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1960. Pp. v + 152. Price 21s.

This is an easily read, small book that will be of invaluable help to the general practitioner in his daily work. It should enable him to sort out those cases which, of necessity, should be referred to hospital and those which he should be competent to deal with himself.

The second edition has been brought up-to-date and the warning on the use of cortisone and allied drugs should be read and duly heeded by every general practitioner.

It is refreshing to note that the author has, in the past, been in general practice himself and is aware of the difficulties that beset the busy general practitioner.

The illustrations are quite excellent, the whole book is well produced and a credit to its author and his publishers.