

**Moral Principles of Fertility Control.** REV. DENIS O'CALLAGHAN, D.D. Dublin. Clonmore and Reynolds Ltd., Lond. Burns Oates Ltd. 1960. Pp. i + 39. Price 2s. 6d.

This booklet is in the main, concerned with the ethical issues raised by the introduction of the new oral contraceptives, although wider medico-moral matters are touched on.

Some of the medical data given by Father O'Callaghan have been criticized in detail in a more lengthy and rather hostile review in the *Catholic Medical Quarterly* (April 1961), to which those interested may refer. However despite criticism of detail this is an important work as one of the first detailed analyses of the subject by a moral theologian.

While the chief interest of this booklet is to Catholic doctors, others will find here some illumination of the Catholic viewpoint on contraception and sterilization.

**15 + Facts of Life.** A Family Doctor booklet. KENNETH BARNES, B.S.C. The British Medical Association. Pp. i + 32. Price 1s.

This booklet is a follow-up on an earlier Family Doctor publication "The Facts of Life", but is aimed, as the title suggests, at a more advanced age group and is correspondingly more detailed. The 'facts' are discussed from the physiological, psychological and moral aspects. The psychological section is outstandingly good and much of it could be read with benefit by adults as a sort of marriage guidance course in miniature. A possible defect from the teenage viewpoint is the lack of illustrations.

**Medical Evidence in Personal Injury Cases.** DOROTHY KNIGHT DIX, one of Her Majesty's Counsel and ALAN TODD, M.S., N.S.C., F.R.C.S. Lond.: H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1961. Pp. v + 242. Price 42s.

The ordinary general practitioner, used as he is in dealing with the unusual and the unexpected, finds himself in a strange world when he becomes caught up in a medico-legal case. Accustomed to collecting and sifting clinical evidence and arriving at a diagnosis, paradoxically, he is mystified by the ponderous display of forensic evidence in the Courts. Many-a-time have doctors wished for some clear exposition of this important discipline. This book provides answers to most of the questions he may wish to know. It fills a much felt want and is highly recommended.