

Antibiotics and Sulphonamides in Paediatrics. JOSEPH UNGAR and LEONARD HAAS. London. Oxford University Press. Pp. i + 149. Price 15s.

This handy size little book is a neat and concise guide to the use of antibiotics and sulphonamides in paediatrics at the present time. It does not attempt to be completely up to date on the latest and untried forms of penicillin or other antibiotics and does not claim to report laboratory or clinical trials. It is essentially dogmatic in its approach and provides a vast fund of information.

It is divided into three parts; the first part dealing with the general treatment of disease by antibiotics and the second part discussing the properties of the various substances. The third part is more useful for doctors in general practice, being a concise description of the antibiotic treatment of the common paediatric infections. The references are scanty but this is to be expected in a book with such a limited field as this.

It would be a very useful reference book for the general practitioner, in doubt about the precise dosage of antibiotics in some infections but one would feel that most of the third part is already known in good general practice. No mention is made of the other aspects of treatment but the authors make no attempt to suggest that they are covering the whole field of treatment.

Clinical Chemistry in Practical Medicine. C. P. STEWART, D.SC., PH.D., and SIR DERRICK DUNLOP, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin. and Lond. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1962. Pp. v + 359. Price 27s. 6d.

The fifth edition of this book was reviewed in these columns three years ago.

The reasons for chemical examinations and the interpretation of the results are clearly explained. The techniques of simple methods of examination are described in the appendix.

It has been revised and brought up to date. Many changes in arrangement and type are evident. Advances in medicine are reflected in the changes or additions to the text relating to diabetes insipidus, magnesium metabolism, electrophoresis, classification of renal disease, hypoglycaemia, tubeless gastric analysis, malabsorption syndrome, lymphadenoid goitre, adrenocortical function, and cholesterol and coronary heart disease.

The book retains its previous shape, and contains 17 more pages; it is printed on better quality paper which provides greater print contrast, and the price remains unchanged.