

Cancer. The Nature of the Problem. R. J. C. HARRIS, PH.D.,
A.R.C.S. A Penguin Book. Middx. Penguin Books Ltd.
Pp. i + 126. Price 3s. 6d.

A. E. Clark-Kennedy in an editorial foreword says "anyone afraid of cancer will do well to read this book". The reader whose fears are due to ignorance or lack of perspective will have those fears greatly allayed.

The development both of cancer research and of our knowledge of cancer is described from the experimental and not the clinical angle. The first chapter on cell and cell division is a splendidly simple and clear introduction to cell morphology. It is followed by a lucid description of normal and abnormal growth. Occupational and environmental cancer of man are historically recorded from the scrotal cancer of Pott's chimney sweep to the modern factory worker's hazards. The second half of the book is largely concerned with the causes and experimental production of cancer and with its chemotherapy.

The book is easily understandable and well-phrased. It has a bibliography and an index.

Problems of Retirement. An Institute of Directors Publication.
London. 1961. A report of a one day Conference. Pp. vii + 64.

Retirement is full-time compulsory leisure and, in the sense that a great part of society can expect to live some years after giving up the work of their prime, is something completely novel in human history. Careful thought and preparation should be given to it, so that fears of loss of status, of financial embarrassment, of loss of companionship, and of want of occupation, may be minimized or avoided. The wise couple put down roots for retirement, during holidays and week-ends, during the preceding five years.

The real problem in industry is how to deal with the man who passes his peak in his early fifties or even before. How can his responsibility be decently and humanely brought down to the level of his capacity? As loss of status, by which is meant position in the work hierarchy, is the biggest deprivation of compulsory retirement, a new positive status is required for retired people so that they should never feel "no—longer—working, no—longer—useful". This booklet discusses this and other personal and administrative problems in a very interesting way.