

**A Family Doctor's Day.** DENIS CRADDOCK, M.D., CH.B., D.OBST.R.C.O.G. London. H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1962. Pp. vii + 155. Price 12s. 6d.

This book, according to the preface, is a companion volume to *An Introduction to General Practice* by the same author. It is intended to give new entrants into general practice an insight into handling patients in the *milieu* of family practice, to interest senior practitioners in comparing their methods with the author's and to enable consultants to become conscious of the difficulties of general practitioners in making a diagnosis and initiating treatment.

The book is presented as a series of doctor-patient interviews in the consulting room or in the home as Doctor John spends his working day, from 3.45 a.m. when he visits a child with pneumonia, to 9.45 p.m. as he beds an old lady down with a shot of morphia and largactil.

There are as many ways of practising as there are practitioners, and whilst the reviewer could not see eye to eye on many of the matters touched on, he recognizes that the author would find a similar content of the reviewer's practice equally hard to agree with.

A new entrant to general practice however has not experience to discriminate and might get the idea, after reading this book, that the Talquist method is a satisfactory method of haemoglobin estimation; that women patients could be examined P.V. without a chaperone; that a seven year old could be given 4 tablets of dexten at night for enuresis, and that one knew when women patients were promiscuous or not, amongst other, to say the least, doubtful propositions.

The book is written by a family doctor who finds great satisfaction in the practice of his art, and the interviews are those which take place daily in all general practices, and are composed with authority.

**Dental Health and the Dental Services.** A report prepared for the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. C. A. MOSER, KATHLEEN GALES and P. W. R. MORPURGO. London., N.Y. and Toronto. Oxford University Press. 1962. Pp. i + 64. Price 5s.

This report is devoted to the examination of the available data on dental health and the dental services including research. It is confined to England and Wales, and to the National Health Service period. It was undertaken to demonstrate where the data could be found from which the facts could be established on which future policy could be based. Much data is available but there are large gaps, particularly relating to the prevalence of dental illness in the population. Suggestions are made at the end of the report as to how these gaps could be filled.