

Book Reviews

The Principles and Practice of Medicine. Edited by Sir STANLEY DAVIDSON, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.(EDIN.), F.R.C.P.(LOND.), M.D.(OSLO), F.R.S.(EDIN.), Sixth edition. Edin. and Lond. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1962. Pp. xii + 1,139. Price 35s.

This standard work has altered little in its sixth edition, reached in ten years: surely a significant enough measure of its success. It probably represents the best value in text-book of medicine, and the editor is to be congratulated in keeping it within reasonable bounds. There are 27 more pages than the last edition yet by using a thinner—albeit a heavier paper—the book occupies less space on the shelf than did its predecessor. For the general practitioner it is a most useful revision book—for the student a *sine qua non*.

Modern Medical Treatment by various authors, edited by HENRY MILLER, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin. and Lond., E. and S. Livingstone Ltd., 1962. Pp. v + 416. Price 30s.

This book is written for general practitioners; it is intended especially for those who wish to make sure that their knowledge of treatment is up-to-date.

It fulfils its purpose admirably, being short, accurate, practical, and fairly dogmatic. Where treatment is controversial, as in psychiatry, the author commits himself firmly to one line. It inspires confidence partly because it makes treatment seem simple and partly because it allows the reader to feel that he knew a good deal about the subject after all. It makes no attempt to deal with diseases rare in general practice.

This book can be recommended without reservation.

Textbook of Psychiatry. Ninth edition. SIR DAVID HENDERSON and IVOR R. C. BATCHELOR. Lond., N.Y., Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1961. Pp. ix + 573. Price 42s.

The new edition of this time honoured text-book has been enlarged and brought up to date. The new format with larger pages is an improvement, and from cover to cover the book is packed with information, theory, and exemplary case histories, all delightfully free from the jargon which so often deters the reader untrained in psychiatry. There are two completely new chapters on Psychiatry