

know what they mean. Dr Max Hamilton in a series of lectures has most ably set out to teach the unmathematical the meaning of statistics. A reading of his book will bring to the ordinary practitioner a better insight into the meanings of the scientific papers that he reads in the journals. Those who are planning research projects will find much useful information in his pages and the wisdom of consulting a statistician early in their preparatory work will become even more apparent to them than it was before.

Dr Gray's little book is a class-book. In a manner reminiscent of the French conversation school-books he chooses as his examples the most unexpected things, and almost before we know where we are, Alice-like, we are charmed into considering the "distribution of left ear-length in white rabbits". In spite of this there is good, simple sense in this pamphlet and, armed with it and the tables of squares and square roots and Fishers tables that it contains, it will be possible for most of us to work out the simple statistical problems we meet in the course of our work.

The Casualty Officer's Handbook. MAURICE ELLIS, M.A., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H. London, Butterworths, 1962. Pp. v + 243. Price 42s.

This splendid handbook is designed for its purpose by a consultant surgeon who has great experience of casualty work. He evidently is equally experienced in teaching his skills to junior casualty officers. All the common injuries seen in a casualty department are dealt with in systematic order, and the instruction given is made comprehensible by a simple exposition of principles in every instance.

One wonders what might be the rationale of heparin compresses on the intact skin over a soft tissue injury, but it is difficult to find much to criticize. Every general practitioner who has to deal with minor casualties (and who does not?) should get this book. He will find it an invaluable guide to the modern practices used in dealing with such injuries. Doctors who give cover in general-practitioner hospitals will find the book indispensable.

Outline of Orthopaedics. Fourth Edition. JOHN CRAWFORD ADAMS, M.D., F.R.C.S. Edin. and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961. Pp. v + 448. Price 35s.

This book which has now reached its fourth edition, was first published in 1956 and this surely shows that it has supplied a long felt want for a small compact book on orthopaedics. Though it is intended primarily for medical students, practitioners will find it