

pathological laboratory and not a specialised one. His examination and treatment are discussed.

As one studies this book one realizes how important is the family physician's part in treatment and while much of the investigation and the surgical approach should be in the hands of the proper expert, the basic responsibility and implementation of treatment should rest with him or her.

Of the various appendices, number 1 which gives a detailed scheme of investigation of impaired fertility is the most important and helpful to the general practitioner and is a foundation for these cases. The book is carefully and usefully illustrated in colour and black and white with charts and drawings. It is whole-heartedly recommended.

Monozygotic Twins. JAMES SHIELDS. Lond., N.Y. and Toronto. Oxford University Press. 1962. Pp. i+264. Price 50s.

The main material discussed in this important book relates to 88 pairs of identical twins, 44 of them brought up in different homes, 44 in the same home.

No reader can fail to see in this brilliant study of genetic identity and coexisting environmental diversity, some of those factors that, increasingly, interest general practitioners. Dr Shields is an expert, doing what, with less scientific awareness, each physician and surgeon attempts for every one of his patients. When illness strikes, the doctor strives to see that the relevant factors in the complex resultant of the strands of heredity and environment are revealed. This daily task is a less highly academic but kindred study to this remarkable analysis of twins.

Dr Eliot Slater in his Foreword tells us that experts in genetic science are trying here to measure the effects of a wide range of environmental factors . . . "the personality of the mother or mother-figure, the family structure, social and economic background, in fact all the common differences from family to family in England today which we can expect to react upon the personality of the growing child".

Genetics is an infant science, but its future will see many of those who work among the commonplace illnesses making an increasingly important contribution to its growing data. Here is a book that will kindle in many family doctors the desire to record facts that, often, only they can reach.

A Doctor's Guide to Court. KEITH SIMPSON, M.D., D.M.J. Lond. Butterworths. 1962. Pp. v. + 174. Price 30s.

This is more than a guide to court. Dr Simpson has contrived to write a most readable book about his subject. All the important occurrences which are likely to bring the doctor into court as a witness either of fact or as an expert are mentioned with many revealing "case histories".