

now have to be considered when a patient's fluids or electrolytes are upset, together with a number of "cartoons" calculated to drive home certain elementary but important ideas, and perhaps to wake up the reader at intervals. There are 390 pages of text, in which everything of importance seems to get a mention, if not a detailed exposition. Some sections are much better done than others, and this applies particularly to the chapter on Diagnosis and Therapy. There is a large reference section, and a good index.

The book will not find many buyers amongst general practitioners in this country, as they would have to work hard to find the applications of the subject which especially concern them, but it is certainly a book for the student (advanced) and should find a place in medical libraries.

Practical Electrocardiography. Third edition. HENRY J. L. MARRIOTT, M.D. Baltimore. The Williams and Wilkins Co. 1962. Pp. xvi + 274.

The title of this book is somewhat misleading in that the basic technique of taking an electrocardiographic tracing is not described, although some useful practical tips for "the technician" are given. The theory of electrocardiography is described briefly, and the main text is concerned with the interpretation of abnormal electrocardiograms. This is very well written and illustrated by over 200 different tracings, including a number of "review" or test tracings. Most of the illustrations show limb, av and v leads.

A special feature is the close and convenient relationship between the illustrations and the relevant text, at the cost of some orthodoxy in the layout. There is an extensive list of references—over 200 in all—given in neatly classified sections at the end of each chapter. In a short section on Electrocardiophogenic Disease the author states, "too many people are limping their way through life, maimed by the unkind cuts of electrocardiographic interpretations". This work will do much to make the cuts more accurate and less unkind, and should be of the greatest value to the growing number of general practitioners who take their own cardiograms. One page 226, figure 164 should read, figure 165—a solitary and not very serious error in an otherwise first-class production.

The Integrity of the Body. Sir MACFARLANE BURNET, O.M., F.R.S. Harvard University Press, U.S.A. and London: Oxford University Press, 1962. Pp. vi + 189. Price 30s.

This is No. 3 in the series of Harvard Books in Biology. The subtitle accurately describes it as a discussion of modern immunological ideas, so many of which—one need scarcely add—have come from the fertile mind of the author himself. A feature that medical readers will find stimulating, yet chastening, is his general disregard of the merely practical or technical aspects of immunology—vaccination, allergy, tissue grafting, drug reactions and so forth—and his concern with a theory of the cellular and genetic background.

After a useful account of the origin and development of classical

immunology dealing, for example, with antibodies, blood groups and anaphylaxis, we are led by easy stages to consider the cellular and genetic aspects of self-recognition and then introduced to the clonal-selection and other theories of immunity. The second half of the book applies the clonal-selection theory to the interpretation of several non-medical as well as medical problems: the analysis of blood stains, the classification of micro-organisms, the effect of Xrays on immunity, allergies such as sedormid purpura, and the auto-immune diseases. Finally comes an inspired glimpse into the future.

The words are easy to understand but their meaning not easy to comprehend. For that reason this book is well worth reading.

Goodbye, Doctor, Goodbye. PETER MANNIGIAN. Lond., N.Y. and Toronto. Abelard-Schuman. 1963. Pp. ix + 155. Price 16s.

The Story of a Woman Physician. G. M. WAUCHOPE, B.SC., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., Bristol. John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1963. Pp. iii + 138. Price 17s. 6d.

To write ones autobiography or memoirs is fashionable. It is not necessary that the author be well-known though to have been a statesman or a field-marshal is certainly to be assured of a market. The present vogue for things medical—stimulated by television—has placed the memoirs of doctors amongst the best sellers.

Both the books under review are addressed equally to laymen and to doctors and both have the inevitable faults of this endeavour. *Goodbye, Doctor, Goodbye* by Peter Mannigan is a competent autobiography. Sprinkled here and there, as is to be expected, with the unusual case and the opinions of the author on life and on medical practice and politics, it makes good reading.

Dr Wauchope has succeeded in writing a most readable and informative book. Her life in medicine began during the first world war at St Andrews University and then at the London Hospital. Her pen pictures of the life of the hospital during that time are little masterpieces, as are those of the giants who made The London one of the greatest medical schools in the country between the wars. Here is a history of the development of modern medicine so vivid as to make the changes that have taken place and the effect they have had on those who have lived through them easily understood by doctor or layman. To have done this so well is a considerable achievement. Dr Wauchope confesses that she does not write easily and that her compositions are the result of much thought and alteration before the finished version is achieved. Would that others spent so much time and care in what they write. This autobiography will become one of the minor classics of medical literature. The present edition is produced in paper-back format; its type is small but clear. So good a book deserves a hard binding.