

The Medical Annual, 1963. R. BODLEY SCOTT, M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P. & R. and Milnes Walker, M.S., F.R.C.S. 81st year. Bristol. John Wright and Sons Ltd. 1963. Pp. xl+588. Price 45s.

The *Medical Annual* for 1963 maintains the standard of previous issues. The special articles are on intracranial aneurysms, the artificial kidney and transplantation of the kidney. These are subjects which, although highly specialized, must be sufficiently understood by the family doctor to enable him to advise his patients and obtain for them the skills which are now developing.

In the review of the year's work general practitioners will find many entries to interest them. Two notes on vertigo and acute benign vertigo (epidemic vertigo) are of special interest, and two pages on black eyes, blow-outs and double vision contain timely warnings in these days when violence on the roads exceeds in incidence violence in the pubs.

The practitioners' index of recent pharmaceutical preparations gives not only the composition of the preparation but also a description of it. For instance "yellow, film-coated tablets, stamped M.D.S." "opaque maroon capsules (size No. 4)" and so on; this may be useful for identification purposes when a temporary resident requests replenishment or someone takes too many.

As usual the *Medical Annual* provides a convenient way of browsing through medical progress as well as a handy reference work when some special problem has to be solved.

Teach Yourself Physical Fitness. LINDSEY W. BATTEN, M.B., M.R.C.P. London. The English University Press Ltd. 1963. Pp. vi + 118. Price 6s.

Dr Batten in this little book, one of the teach yourself series, has packed much of the wisdom that he has harvested and matured during his life as a general practitioner. This is not just another rehash of the usual platitudes but the genuine "Batten on health".

Doctors can confidently recommend this book to their patients.

Tonsils and Adenoids. D. F. N. HARRISON, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. A Family Doctor booklet. (British Medical Association). Pp. ii + 31. Price 1s.

Dr Harvey Flack says in a foreword to this booklet that a surprising number of patients get worried about their children's tonsils and adenoids, and that this book is intended to be helpful to them.

It should be, for it deals most thoroughly and clearly with what we know and what we can advise on the subject. If having read it the parents are not helped it is no fault of the author, and indeed it is likely that their worry needs treatment as well as the child's tonsils and adenoids.