

Clinical Genodermatology. THOMAS BUTTERWORTH, A.B., M.D., MED.SC.M., and LYON P. STREAN, D.DS., M.S.PH.D. London. Baillière, Tindall & Cox Ltd. 1963. Pp. vii + 221. Price 108s.

Pathological processes result from the reactions of body tissues to disease-provoking stimuli. To a large extent, these reactions are governed by inherited mechanisms which, if abnormal, may allow diseases to develop in response to stimuli which, in other circumstances, would be regarded as normal. *Clinical Genodermatology*, deals with disorders of the skin and mucous membranes, resulting from the inheritance of a dominant or recessive gene, or from the presence of an abnormal number of chromosomes.

Covering a very wide range of diseases, some common, such as psoriasis and freckles, and some rare, such as xeroderma pigmentosa and dyskeratosis congenita, the book also deals with conditions in which the skin manifestations play only a part, such as Turner's syndrome, phenylketonuria and gout. Each section, describing a disease process, gives only a brief outline of the differential diagnosis and treatment, but it is clearly assumed that the reader already has a sound knowledge of dermatology.

The classification of chapters is by clinical manifestations rather than by the type of abnormal inheritance, so that albinism is placed in the same chapter as familial jaundice, and mongolism in the same chapter as gout. Nevertheless, the subject matter is, in general, well ordered, the descriptions of the diseases are clear and well written, and the many black and white photographs are excellent. Each chapter is followed by a short list of important references.

Since much of the book deals with rare disorders, its value for the general practitioner lies mainly in the broadening of one's basic conception of the role of inheritance in the pathogenesis of skin disorders.

Although many practitioners might not find a niche for this work on their bookshelves, it can be recommended to anyone interested in the influence of inheritance on the causation of disease.

The Newly Born Infant. Second Edition. ANDREW BROGAN, M.D., M.R.C.P.E., D.C.H. A Tutorial System Publication—Paediatric Series. 1963. Ontario. McAinsh & Co., Ltd. and Christchurch, New Zealand. N. M. Peryer Ltd. Pp. v+42.

This is a book written mainly for the medical student, for use during his paediatric clerking. It is written throughout in note form, and facing each page of notes is a blank page for the addition of further notes by the student. The completed book will therefore be of great value to the student reading for finals. This is not a text-book and it is not the author's intention that it should be.

This book is short consisting of 42 printed pages only, however, since it is written in note form an extensive field is covered. The notes are well set out, and clearly printed in large type; with many headings either picked out in capitals or underlined. There are some spelling mistakes in