

the text, horicebrin on page 31, and microcephaly on page 34, also hydrops foetalis, is usually printed as two words, and not one as on page 36.

There is no index, but a comprehensive table of contents is printed at the front of the book.

This will be a useful book for the medical student, and also possibly as the author suggests for the sister-tutor and clerical tutor. It will be of little use to the general practitioner.

Antibodies. Edited by E. J. HOLBORROW. British Medical Bulletin. Vol. 19, No. 3, 1963: The British Council. Price 30s.

This is instructive but not easy reading. Professor A. A. Miles' introduction traces the story from 1890 to present times. Then follow chapters on the nature of the reaction between antigen and antibody, on detecting, isolating and characterizing antibodies, on using them as cytological tools, on the structure and metabolism of gamma-globulins and on factors affecting the antibody response, on immunological competence, on antitoxins, reagins and the cytotoxic action of antibodies and on auto-antibodies in experimental animals and human disease. Family doctors will naturally find most interest in a chapter on the response of young infants to active immunization.

Emergency Service Manual. JOHN H. SCHNEEWIND, M.D. Chicago. Year Book Medical Publishers, Inc. London. Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1963. Pp. v+246. Price 34s.

This small volume is really written for the prospective and actual casualty house officer, or to quote the book "The Emergency Room Physician". It is, however, a useful book for the general practitioner since, albeit briefly, it covers nearly all the emergencies that may be seen in general practice. There is an excellent index and the illustrations, limited in number, are good. A useful book to carry in the general practitioner's bag.

Elsevier's Medical Dictionary. English/American, French, Italian, Spanish and German. Compiled by A. SLOSBERG. Amsterdam, London, New York. Elsevier Publishing Company. 1964. Pp. ii+1588. Price 250s.

This is a dictionary of medical terms and nosological titles. It contains 18,341 entries in column. Each entry is in alphabetical order in English first and its equivalent in French, Italian, Spanish and German in the following columns. Thus to take a simple example it is easy to find that the three letter word "hum" is equally descriptive but far less economically described in the other languages as *bourdonnement*, *sussurro* or *ronzio*, *zumbido*, *Sausen* or *Summen*.

The list is followed by an index of synonyms in each language so that

the translation of the word sought may be obtained easily.

This is an invaluable book even for those who are familiar with the language that they are reading, for medical terms are even today not common parlance except amongst doctors.

New Ideas on Rehabilitation. Report of a Study Day on Facilities for Education, Rehabilitation and Care Services held in London, June 1963. The Chest and Heart Association, London. Pp. i + 102. Price 10s. 6d.

This small booklet makes interesting reading. Sixteen experts in various fields have contributed on such varied subjects as "Accepting Disability", "Return to Industry", "Special Schools", and "The Vesper Club"—this latter being a Luton organization for helping the house-bound and disabled. The final section is devoted to a question-and-answer session with a panel of the contributors.

Although directed at a lay audience—patients and their relatives, and social workers—the general practitioner will find much useful information here, applicable to fields of rehabilitation well beyond the bounds of heart and chest disease.

Understanding Epilepsy. ROBERT KEMP, T.D., M.D., M.R.C.P. London. Tavistock Publications. 1963. Pp. v + 93. Price 15s.

This small book written for parents or patients is a most useful contribution to the subject. A volume of this kind must be easy to read, and it must err on the side of optimism, to counter the ever-present pessimism of the reader for whom it is intended. This book is in fact easy to read, and the first four chapters are excellent and full of sound advice such as, "The patient must become a student of his own particular case". "The fewer attacks the patient experiences the less liable he is to have them." "They rarely occur when the patient is actively engaged in work or play." However, the reviewer questions the place of a whole chapter on childhood convulsions in a book of this nature. Here he feels the orientation is all wrong and will promote anxiety rather than reassure. It is suggested that a true childhood convulsion may mean organic brain disease, or true epilepsy, or it may be of no significance. Surely it would be more tactful and more accurate the other way round, as most infantile fits are benign. The problems of taking alcohol and of driving a car are dealt with in detail. A suggestion for future editions is that the young epileptic should be told bluntly he will never drive a car long before he is old enough to apply for a license. The chapters on the hereditary factors, and epilepsy and the family have a great deal in common and could perhaps be combined. In his summing up the author takes the very narrow view that expert advice from a specialized clinic should *always* be sought. Surely the general practitioner has a place in the diagnosis and the treatment of epilepsy. If the control is inadequate then specialist advice is a *sine qua*