

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*