

Peripheral Circulation in Man. British Medical Bulletin. Published by the Medical Department, The British Council, London. 1963. Price 30s.

This publication contains 11 papers devoted to recent advances in the physiology of the peripheral circulation and the scope is shown by the titles: Investigation of peripheral blood flow; nervous control of cutaneous circulation; circulation in skeletal muscle; autonomic transmitter mechanisms; adrenaline and limb blood vessels; noradrenaline, isopropyl-noradrenaline and dopamine; hyperaemia induced by exercise and ischaemia; local effects of temperature; venous tone; critical closure in human limbs; and capillary filtration. The descriptions of original work all contain adequate references to previous work and are followed by full lists of references. The final paper by A. C. Dornhurst is an excellent summary of the clinical implications of the advances described. For the clinician, including general practitioners, it is very heavy reading with small return in terms of clinical usefulness at the present stage. It is, however, necessary reading for the M.R.C.P. candidate.

The British Medical Bulletin has a unique place among medical publications and this number maintains the usual very high standard.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Bibliography on Yaws 1905–1962. World Health Organization. Geneva. 1963. Pp. 106. Price 13s. 4d.

WHO Expert Committee on Gonococcal Infections. First Report. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 262. Geneva. 1963. Pp. 70. Price 5s. 0d.

Correspondence

A Curious Twin Abortion

Sir,

I was most interested to read Dr Melling's report of his unusual case of twin abortion. I wonder if I might presume to offer an alternative theory for a conception on day twenty-one or thereabout of a regular twenty-eight day cycle.

The theory is that of Iffy, which he mentioned recently in a paper to the Royal Society of Medicine. He calls it the post mid-cycle theory.

He presents evidence to suggest that when a second ovulation occurs late in an otherwise normal cycle (usually around day twenty-one), there is