

also of the Dublin of olden times.

The plates are well chosen. There is a good bibliography and lists of the past presidents and officers of the College, all gathered together at the end of the volume.

Care of the Patient with a Stroke. GENEVIEVE W. SMITH, M.A. London and Wisbech. Tavistock Publications. 1963. Pp. vii+157. Price 17s. 6d.

This book is refreshingly practical. It is intended for "the patient's family and the nurse" but could be studied with advantage by the family doctor and the consulting physician who, nominally in charge of the case, often understand too little of the minutiae of treatment which determine the ultimate fate of the patient, mental as well as physical.

The sequelae of a cerebral catastrophe are dealt with as a whole. They are met with courage, optimism and organization which, helpful in any illness, are sorely needed in one which strikes down a previously healthy man and taxes the whole family in what is often a long and depressing illness.

Physical needs and mental reactions are never divorced. The book is packed with detail of nursing management, simply and clearly illustrated. The patient is not the cog round which the exhausted family revolves but an important individual who must make his own contribution to his welfare.

The good paper and clear print make easy reading and every page combines wisdom and sympathy with practical advice. "Most people would rather have died when they had the stroke . . . the patient's acceptance of his fate will depend largely upon the attitude of his family and friends". The obvious deep personal experience is explained when the author tells of her own feeling of inadequacy when she, a trained nurse, is faced with the care of her own husband. The chapters on "Visiting", "Meeting personality problems" and "Towards happy living" touch on subjects too often neglected.

The book is a challenge to all; patient, family, nurse and doctor. "In rehabilitating the patient, always keep in mind the total aim—to bring him back to happy useful living within the limits of his capacities".
