

cared for by general practitioners.

Studies of the various types of general-practitioner records with a view to preparing a phototype incorporating the best pictures of each type.

A study of the usefulness of periodic medical examinations in relation to their cost, where and how often they should be done, the specific examinations to be carried out, and the percentage of examinations revealing dangerous pathological conditions.

A detailed study of the organization, operation, efficacy, and acceptability of general practice in as many forms as possible over a wide area.

**Measles Vaccines.** A report of a WHO Scientific Group. WHO Technical Report Series No. 263. London. H.M. Stationery Office. 1963. Pp. 40. Price 3s.6d.

This report contains the collective views of an international group of experts on the development of measles vaccines. It presents detailed information about many aspects of the subject in good readable English. A short summary on previous studies of Enders' Edmonston B strain vaccine is followed in greater detail by short reports about work in Yugoslavia, Japan, U.S.S.R., Nigeria, Britain, and America. Later chapters discuss the value and limitations of killed and attenuated live vaccines, severe reactions after vaccination, contra-indications to measles vaccines and precautions in their use, and the safety testing of present and future vaccines. Finally the reader is given a brief indication of the lines which future studies should follow.

Any family doctor who expects to use or be asked about measles vaccine should read this report soon.

**Age and Need.** A Study of Older People in North-east Scotland. I. M. RICHARDSON, M.D., PH.D., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.H. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. vi + 124. Price 25s.

Any book published under the imprimatur of a regional hospital board, sponsored by the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust and issuing from the department of social medicine of a great university must command immediate attention and respect. In his introduction to this survey the author reveals how it resulted from a conference convened by the North-east (Scotland) Regional Hospital Board to examine the statutory and voluntary services for old people in that area. Dr Richardson stresses the special role of hospital boards in localized research schemes of this kind and suggests that the "regional co-ordinating function of a hospital board could, perhaps, be developed more widely".

Dr Richardson and his research team of two doctors, both experienced in and familiar with the problems of general practice, and two trained social workers launched a well-planned and carefully executed enquiry into the medical and social needs of nearly 500 ageing men and women drawn from eleven randomly chosen practices in the city and rural