

the chair of psychological medicine in Edinburgh.

Professor Fish has written a book for which general practitioners will rejoice—not to mention students and others—and for which he may well be proud. “In any given case” he says, “all the factors which may possibly be relevant should be considered and the appropriate measures etc., should be applied.” This is just how the general practitioner has to meet the problem of mental illness in the community. Professor Fish has described the phenomena of psychological illness systematically and in clear-cut terms. Recent developments in psychiatric thinking and newer forms of treatment are described concisely and lucidly. Modern psychiatry is attempting to define more precisely what constitutes mental illness. Professor Fish makes it quite clear that there is no duality between the so-called ‘psychiatric’ and the ‘organic’ diseases. We are not urged, as one of our respected elder general practitioners said in the *May Journal* “to stop barking up Soma and bark up Psyche instead” or vice versa. Common sense, a prescription and reassurance is not psychotherapy. The general practitioner is in the enviable position, apart from the paediatrician, of being able to study the behaviour of his patient in psychological, interpersonal and social terms. Professor Fish has provided a first rate guide to a subject that is bedevilled with suspicion and ignorance.

There is a useful chapter on method in psychiatric case-taking at the end of the book and a comprehensive reading list with suitable comments. This book can be well recommended for any general practitioner and certainly for every student.

Industrial Injuries, Their Prevention and Treatment. DONALD F. FEATHERSTONE. Bristol. John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1964. Pp. 154. Price 32s. 6d.

The author, a physiotherapist, has written this book for all concerned with industrial injuries—for the industrial executives with their problems of placement and their interest in accident prevention; for the man on the bench with his practical tasks; for the industrial nurse and physiotherapist; for safety officers; and for welfare officers concerned in rehabilitation.

The size of the problem is dealt with explicitly. The dust-cover tells us that “in British factories in 1961, 368 workers were killed and 161,555 injured seriously enough to be absent from work for more than three days. It is estimated that 30 per cent of all accidents in British industry are sustained in work and account for half a million annual casualties at a cost in manpower wastage estimated to be £70 million”. An analysis is made of industrial injuries and it is concluded that the majority occur through a number of trivial and easily explained reasons. They tend to occur when the worker is tired or at the end of a strenuous period of work. The mental state also influences the occurrence rate and physical defects beget injuries.

One in every four fatal accidents occur on building sites and the majority of these result from falling from heights.

Subsequent sections of the book deal with balancing, bending, lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling and driving vehicles with special reference to the dynamics, physiology and anatomy of the processes.

The effects of mental and physical fatigues are dealt with.

The subject matter includes a chapter on the hazards which face the desk-bound executive from lack of exercise and seems to stretch the concept of industrial injuries rather far.

The sections on rehabilitation and resettlement stress the importance of the emotional factors involved. True rehabilitation includes the solution or at least mitigation of any concurrent socio-economic problems created by the injury.

Other sections deal with strains, sprains, contusions, abrasions, fractures, dislocations and skin sepsis.

The final sections deal with the role of the industrial physiotherapist and nurse to whom this book is most appropriate, but it could also be recommended to any non-medical reader who has to deal with the problems of industrial injuries though a section on the current organization of accident services would have been useful.

The price will tend to restrict the sale of the book.

Outline of Fractures. JOHN CRAWFORD ADAMS, M.D., F.R.C.S. Fourth edition. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. viii + 303. Price 30s.

This is an excellent book and the fact that a fourth edition is now issued is evidence of the popularity of previous editions and the admirable desire of the author to keep the book up to date with modern orthopaedic practice. It is claimed to be a book for medical students and general practitioners who are not necessarily called upon to treat fractures but who should understand the mechanisms, diagnosis and methods of treatment. It is also recommended for physiotherapists.

This task is performed admirably since the book is written concisely and dogmatically without completely neglecting alternative methods. It is lavishly illustrated with diagrams and x-ray pictures. These x-ray pictures are particularly worthy of mention since it is obvious they have been selected with much care and greatly reinforce the already lucid text. The student of today is indeed fortunate to have the work of an author who can, with a minimum of words and the painstaking collection of illustrations, make the difficult subject of fractures easy to read and understand.

It is a book that should be in every medical student's library and possessed by all who have to treat or deal with injuries. The excellent references and bibliography that has been added to this edition greatly enhances the value of this book for those who propose to study further this important subject.

Textbook of Medical Treatment. Various Authors. Edited by SIR DERRICK DUNLOP, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., SIR STANLEY DAVIDSON, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., LL.D., and STANLEY ALSTEAD, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P. Ninth edition. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. xviii + 979. Price 65s.

Since its first publication in 1939 this work has always been a favourite