

knowledge should enable medical students, and new graduates, intending to embark on general practice, to take with them some of the pearls of wisdom which he has gleaned.

**Chronic Bronchitis in Great Britain.** LESLIE H. CAPEL, M.D., M.R.C.P., and MAXWELL CAPLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. London. The Chest and Heart Association. 1964. Pp. 56. Price 7s. 6d.

This is yet another review of the subject. Over the past ten years—following a hundred years of neglect—there has been more written and reviewed about chronic bronchitis than pulmonary tuberculosis.

There are now two problems in chest diseases—chronic bronchitis and cancer of the lung, and they both have the same basic aetiology—sucking up atmospheric filth.

This is a very useful review of the subject by two physicians from the London Chest Hospital. They present the problems in a simple fashion particularly suitable for the medical auxiliaries, i.e. nurses, health visitors and social workers. They consider the epidemiology and the basic aetiology, the progression and evolution of the disease and state that its control and treatment lie in prevention rather than in any new and exciting medications.

A valuable section is that in which the social services may help victims of the disease—but here again the service can only be patchy and first aid, they can only serve to relieve the suffering of the victims and families and cannot really halt the progression without the patient's co-operation in giving up smoking.

**Promotion of Medical Practitioners' Interest in Preventive Medicine.** Twelfth Report of the Expert Committee on Professional and Technical Education of Medical and Auxiliary Personnel. W.H.O. Technical Report Series, No. 269. 1964. London. H.M. Stationery Office. 1964. Pp. 24. Price 1s. 9d.

This is the fifth World Health Organization expert committee report which directly concerns general practitioners. Like the report on the practitioner's role in mental health care it is about an area of our work where development is most needed and most possible.

This committee set out to study ways and means whereby the practice of preventive medicine may be integrated more fully and as a matter of ordinary routine with the normal curative work of all groups of medical men whose work brings them into personal contact with the public. Its report discusses the need for preventive medicine, the teaching of preventive medicine in the undergraduate curriculum, and the help required by the medical practitioner in the preventive aspects of his work.

On the need to look for means of prevention at all times in every field of medicine, the report seems to say what we all know and to say it repetitively. But clearly the authors are convinced that we do not all