

Conybeare's Textbook of Medicine. Edited by W. N. MANN, M.D. (Lond.) F.R.C.P. Fourteenth edition. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone. 1964. Pp. xix + 1048. Price 63s.

This well-known textbook of medicine has now reached its fourteenth edition. Sir John Conybeare has retired from the position of senior editor, and this position is now filled by Dr W. N. Mann, who has for many years been associated with the production of the textbook. There are also two new contributors to the book, Dr Charles Baker who has taken over the section on diseases of the cardiovascular system and, Professor D. A. K. Black who writes on disorders of body fluids.

In general, the layout of the book remains the same as in the previous edition, that is a series of articles on the various sub-divisions of medicine, each written by an expert in that particular field. The entire text has been revised, and some sections have been rewritten, for example that on diseases of the blood; whilst others have been enlarged by the addition of more up-to-date material. Full page x-ray plates are included, many of which are new, there is also a large number of diagrams and tables.

This new edition of "Conybeare" maintains the high standard of the previous ones. It is well written, interesting and easily read; it is in fact a pleasure to read. The book is well presented by the publishers at a reasonable price, and it can be highly recommended.

Clinical Examination. Edited by JOHN MACLEOD. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. xii + 513. Price 35s.

This textbook, the work of eight consultants from the Edinburgh Medical School, sets out as its aim "to give an account of the procedure carried out by a doctor examining a patient in the consulting room or at the bedside".

This aim is adequately achieved, and with an enviable clarity of style throughout, considering the multiple authorships; illustrations however are relatively few, and mainly diagrammatic. There are no clinical photographs. In general the balance between the space allotted to the different systems is good, and there are particularly useful chapters on the locomotor and nervous systems and on psychiatric examination.

Electrocardiography is obviously not considered to be within the authors' brief being covered in six and a half lines. On the other hand, there are nine and a half pages on chest percussion and seven pages on abdominal palpation. A chapter (13 pages) is devoted to the use of the ophthalmoscope, but it is disappointing to find only half a page (without illustrations) on laryngoscopy, especially in view of the exhortation earlier in the text that "Every doctor should be capable of using a laryngoscope".

A Handbook on Diseases of Children. Ninth Edition. BRUCE WILLIAMSON and R. M. MAYON-WHITE. Edinburgh and London. E. & S. Livingstone. 1964. Pp. xi + 524. Price 42s.

It is six years since the previous edition of this handbook was published. During those years medicine has made immense strides, which have