

necessitated re-appraisal of the text combined with the introduction of new sections.

This task has been adequately overcome by the co-authors with the result that the ninth edition, though retaining its compactness and original form of setting, has been brought up to date both in theoretical and practical paediatrics. Excellent illustrations are present in abundance and useful concise chapters about common skin and eye disorders are introduced; practical paediatric procedures, common fevers, feeding problems and most of the other more general topics are well covered although the introduction of a new section about poisoning is a little disappointing, only seven lines were included regarding signs, symptoms and treatment of salicylate poisoning.

References are sadly few and far between but this should not detract the medical student or general practitioner from obtaining what will doubtless be a useful acquisition to their paediatric knowledge.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Congenital Hip Pathology in the Newborn.

STANKO STANISAVLJEVIC, M.D. London. Bailliere, Tindall & Cox. 1964. Pp. xvi 94. Price 52s.

This book is the result of intensive research and a meticulous study of all the aspects of congenital hip pathology. In 90 pages many excellent illustrations are combined with a very readable text set out under bold headings on glossy paper, neatly bound.

During the period 1958 to 1962 the author personally examined the hips of 6,000 newborn babies and dissected the hips of many hundreds of stillborn and newborn babies who ranged in age from 4-9 months of intrauterine life. The newborn babies in this last group lived only 6-24 hours after birth.

Chapters are included on normal hips, congenital hip subluxation, dislocation and dysplasia and rounded off with neat discussions, conclusions and a wealth of references.

The general text of this book should be learnt by all medical students and general practitioners since the author has made this marked advance in the knowledge, understanding, early detection and treatment of congenital hip pathology.

Modern Trends in Orthopaedics, Science of Fractures. JOHN M. P. CLARK,

M.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S. London. Butterworths. 1964. Pp. viii + 254. Price 60s.

The forbidding title of this book may, at first sight, make the general practitioner feel that here is a work that is essentially written for the orthopaedic surgeon. Nevertheless it makes interesting reading and Chapter I, Historical Introduction, traces the treatment of fracture from the empirical methods of Hippocrates up to the present day and shows that the theories of today may be the fallacies of tomorrow. The chapter on Metabolic Response to Injury makes particularly interesting reading

and leaves to conjecture the reason why there should be prolonged nitrogen loss after bony injury in fractures of the upper and lower limbs, since the former are not normally associated with prolonged immobilization. The illustrations are outstandingly good and the book is of a handy size to read in an armchair.

Principles of Clinical Electrocardiography. Fifth edition. MERVYN J. GOLDMAN. Lange Medical Publications. Los Altos, California; and Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford. 1964. Pp. 377. Price 42s.

The author states in the preface that his intention has been to present the basic concepts of electrocardiography and their clinical application, and that the material so presented has been simplified, excluding exhaustive and detailed treatment of the subject matter. Nevertheless, it is a large and comprehensive book, the demand for which can be judged from the fact that it is the fifth edition since 1956. The visual method of presentation is extensively used, and more space is devoted to diagrams and to reproductions of electrocardiograms than to text. The chapters on arrhythmias and disturbances of conduction are exceptionally good.

In general, the balance and proportions are good but the introduction to vectorcardiography (26 pages) is so brief that it is doubtful whether it serves any useful purpose. Furthermore, when it was inserted, the earlier text was not completely reviewed and brought into line. For example, the electrocardiograms reproduced on pages 182, 183 and 188 purport to show multiple infarctions, but many would subscribe to the view that they show infarction with peri-infarction block, and would deny that multiple infarctions can be diagnosed by this method. Vectorcardiography makes the whole subject of electrocardiography more intelligible; several books are mentioned for further reading, and of these your reviewer would recommend that by Grant.

The chapter on "Interpretation of the Electrocardiogram" is very instructive. It contains examples of most electrocardiographic abnormalities, and as they are deliberately mixed they provide an excellent test of the reader's grasp of what has gone before. The appendix is a brief summary in the form of a guide to electrocardiographic interpretation. It consists of a series of reproductions of electrocardiograms, each with the diagnosis and reference to the page of the text for full description. It is a helpful form of quick reference when confronted with an unusual electrocardiogram.

For an American book of its size, the price is modest but this appears to have been achieved by some sacrifice of quality in the production. It is one of the best books on electrocardiography and well deserves its evident success.

Principles of Preventive Psychiatry. GERALD CAPLAN, M.D., D.P.M. London. Tavistock Publications. 1964. Pp. xi+304. Price 42s.

Despite its somewhat formidable exterior this book should have a wide appeal. Dr Caplan is concerned to reduce the mass of mental ill-health