

Arnhem and After

Travel by Dark. After Arnhem. By Graeme Warrack. Foreword by H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. (Pp. 256. 21s.) London: Harvill Press. 1963.

If it is true that a great story, like a great whisky, must be given time to mature, then perhaps we can forgive Brigadier Warrack for keeping us waiting for nearly 19 years before giving us his tale of what happened to the Medical Services of the First Airborne Division who remained behind with the wounded when the rest of the Division escaped after their epic nine days of battle against fantastic odds. The first two chapters describe the battle as seen through the eyes of the senior medical officer, and, though imbued with gross understatement, give a vivid picture of the chaos and confusion that inevitably attends an airborne landing. In the most casual way possible they show that high morale can make light of apparently insuperable difficulties. Two more chapters cover the period when the Divisional medical services were still caring for the British wounded, until their German captors had made arrangements to transfer them to P.O.W. cages in Germany. Then comes the fascinating tale of evasion, when the author decides on his ingenious plan of escaping by hiding inside the German barracks on the eve of his transfer to Germany. Brigadier Warrack's plain unvarnished account of the simple heroism and gallantry of the Dutch underground gives, to one reader at least, a far more moving and compelling picture than the more garnished and fictionalized stories

so often presented as true, and it is with the sense that we too have come to know and admire his Dutch friends that we read the epilogue which tells of their present fortunes. The doctor in war must often be cast for the role of Plaza Toro, but when one who was in the forefront of the fighting tells his tale the result is thrilling in the extreme. The maps are well above the standard usually found and help in following the author's tortuous and hazardous journey back to safety.

J. C. WATTS.

Paediatric Manual

Donald Paterson's "Sick Children." By Reginald Lightwood and F. S. W. Brimblecombe. Eighth edition. (Pp. 724+xi; illustrated. 50s.) London: Cassell and Co. Ltd. 1963.

This new edition has been radically rewritten. It is intended "as a working manual for the medical student, the postgraduate undergoing paediatric training, and the practising doctor at home or abroad"—tropical diseases being unusually well covered. Though the authors disclaim considering it as a reference book, its size really puts it into that class, and indeed the amount of well-arranged and up-to-date information that it supplies is impressive. There are seven appendices—on sulphonamide and antibiotic preparations; steroid therapy; dosages of important drugs; electrolytes of body fluids; normal height, weight, skull circumference, and skeletal maturation;

special diets; and legislation concerning children in the United Kingdom.

One way to get the feel of a textbook is to see how some of the more difficult or controversial subjects are handled. Thus sampled, enuresis, steroids in asthma, undescended testicle, and kwashiorkor all come out of the test well. Less good is the place of skin testing and desensitization in asthma (no clear picture emerges of the authors' own views and practice); the section on fibrocystic disease (treatment is outlined too briefly for such an important and common disorder); and that on threadworm infestation (the symptomatology is dealt with uncritically). Sudden (or cot) death in infancy and faecal incontinence (or encopresis) do not appear as such in the index, though mentioned briefly in the text.

The ideal medical textbooks are those which succeed in referring the reader at every turn to the physiology, biochemistry, or anatomy underlying the subject. The authors have gone some distance in this direction, the cardiac section being particularly well done.

References are scanty, selected haphazardly, often given without titles, and placed as footnotes. The usefulness of the book would be much enhanced if key references (with titles) were arranged at the end of each section. Apart from this defect there is little to criticize and much to praise. It will go far towards filling the need for a first-class paediatric textbook, one size smaller in scale than the major texts such as Nelson's. The format is excellent, and the price very reasonable.

DOUGLAS GAIRDNER.

Books Received

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Clinical Electroencephalography in Epilepsy and Related Conditions in Children. By Alberto Fois, M.D. (Pp. 292+viii; illustrated. \$10.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1963.

Physiology and Anatomy. By Esther M. Greisheimer, B.S., M.A., Ph.D., M.D. Eighth edition. (Pp. 894+xvi; illustrated. £3.) London: Pitman Medical Books Limited. 1963.

Readings in Pharmacology. Selected and edited by B. Holmstedt and G. Liljestrand. (Pp. 395+x; illustrated. 50s.) Oxford, London, New York, and Paris: Pergamon Press. 1963.

Technique Radiologique. Guide du Manipulateur. By J. Reboul, R. Guichard, Ch. Wangermez, J. Duhamel, and G. Delorme. Second edition. (Pp. 255; illustrated. 45 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1963.

Sémiologie. By M. Bariety and R. Bonniot. Second edition. (Pp. 519; illustrated. 38 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1963.

Clinical Neurology. By Bernard J. Alpers, M.D., Sc.D.(Med.) Fifth edition. (Pp. 991; illustrated. £6.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1963.

Diary of Dr. Richard Watson Middleton. April 12, 1901, to July 18, 1902. Edited by Michael Gelfand, C.B.E. (Pp. 68; illustrated. No price.) Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia: Bardwell. 1963.

The Aging Eye. By R. A. Weale, Ph.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 200+vi; illustrated. 35s.) London: H. K. Lewis and Company. 1963.

The Porphyrias. A Story of Inheritance and Environment. By Geoffrey Dean, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 118+xi; illustrated. 25s.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Company Limited. 1963.

Handbook of Histopathological Techniques. By C. F. A. Culling, F.I.M.L.T., F.R.M.S. Second edition. (Pp. 553+xii; illustrated. 65s.) London: Butterworth and Company Limited. 1963.

Pancréatites Aiguës. Conception et Thérapeutiques Récentes. By Henri Sarles and Roger Camatte. (Pp. 275; illustrated. 48 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1963.

Advances in Biology of Skin. Volume 4. The Sebaceous Glands. Edited by William Montagna, Richard A. Ellis, and Alene F. Silver. (Pp. 260+xii; illustrated. £4.) Oxford, London, New York, and Paris: Pergamon Press. 1963.

Teenagers Talking. By H. Edelston, M.D., D.P.M. Second edition. (Pp. 194+xi; 10s. 6d.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Company Ltd. 1963.

Electronic Structure Properties and the Periodic Law. By Professor Harry H. Sisler. (Pp. 120+vi; illustrated. 16s.) New York: Reinhold Publishing Corporation. London: Chapman and Hall Limited. 1963.

Cardiac Emergencies. Diagnosis and Treatment. By Bertram A. Bradlow, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.P.E. (Pp. 178+xiii. 35s.) London: Butterworth and Co. Ltd. 1963.

Crime and the Criminal Law. Reflections of a Magistrate and Social Scientist. Hamlyn Lectures. Fifteenth Series. By Barbara Wootton. (Pp. 118+vi. 21s.) London: Stevens and Sons Limited. 1963.

Narcotic Addiction in Britain and America. The Impact of Public Policy. By Edwin M. Schur. (Pp. 281. 35s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1963.

The Biochemical Approach to Life. By F. R. Jevons. (Pp. 184. 28s.) London: George Allen and Unwin Limited. 1963.

Periodic Diseases. By Hobart A. Reimann, M.D. (Pp. 189+vii. 44s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Limited. 1963.

Endocrinology. By A. Stuart Mason, M.A., M.D., B.Ch.Cantab., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.(Lond.). (Pp. 136. 36s.) London: Staples Press. 1963.

Fundamentals of Blood Coagulation in Clinical Medicine. By Cecil Hougie, M.D. (Pp. 303+xi. 92s.) New York, Chicago, and Toronto: McGraw-Hill Publishing Company Limited. 1963.

Clinical Diabetes Mellitus. Edited by Max Ellenberg, M.D., and Harold Rifkin, M.D. (Pp. 448+xvi. £5 4s. 6d.) New York, Toronto, and London: The Blakiston Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company Incorporated. 1963.

International Review of Neurobiology. Volume 5. Edited by Carl C. Pfeiffer and John R. Smythies. (Pp. 439+xi. £5.) New York and London: Academic Press Incorporated. 1963.

Actualités Endocrinologiques. Edited by M. J. Decourt and M. Gilbert-Dreyfus. Exposés Présentés aux Journées Endocrinologiques de la Pitié. (Pp. 360; illustrated. N.F. 48.) Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique Française. 1963.

The Third Child. A Study in the Prediction of Fertility. By Charles F. Westoff, Robert G. Potter, jun., and Philip C. Sagi. (Pp. 293+xxiii. 52s.) Princeton University Press. London: Oxford University Press. 1963.