

psychology are also very personal but will be more widely accepted to-day perhaps than when this book first appeared in 1953. To this advance Professor Illingworth's own writings have made a major contribution. As it is the sort of book that is so often used for reference purposes, the index should surely be more extensive. Family doctors, paediatricians, and others who work with and for children will continue to find this a helpful and thought-provoking book.

ALAN MONCRIEFF.

Curiosities

Curiosities of Medicine. An Assembly of Medical Diversions 1552-1962. Edited with an introduction and notes by Berton Roueche. (Pp. 338+x. 21s.) London: Victor Gollancz. 1963.

The extracts from various books and periodicals which make up this interesting collection were chosen, according to the editor, "not for their scientific merit alone, but because they have the capacity to halt and hold, to excite and delight, to entertain." Though not intended, one or two of the extracts would almost justify adding the words "to alarm" to that list of active verbs. We certainly would hesitate to allow anyone suffering from angina pectoris to read "A Stricken Man and his Heart" for fear of exciting an attack.

On the other hand, our attention is certainly halted and held, our imagination is excited and delighted, and our intelligence entertained by the accurate observations, the

necessary deductions, and the inevitable conclusions of such scientific clinicians as John Snow, William Budd, Peter Panum, William Beaumont, and William Withering, and, in our own generation, William Norman Pickles.

The dates of the sources extend from 1552, when John Caius published his account of the sweating sickness, to 1962, in which year the articles on glue-sniffing and yawning were published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

There is a disproportionately long account of a psycho-analytic treatment (60 pages), while Withering is given only four pages. The extract on "Consumption and The Romantic Age" by René and Jean Dubos has a special literary quality.

This book is a good guinea's worth.

ZACHARY COPE.

Bones of Our Ancestors

Bones, Bodies and Disease. Ancient Peoples and Places. Evidence of Disease and Abnormality in Early Man. By Calvin Wells. (Pp. 288; illustrated. 30s.) London: Thames and Hudson. 1964.

This is one of a series of volumes on Ancient Peoples and Places edited by Dr. Glyn Daniel. It is concerned with the historical aspects of those diseases that leave their traces on ancient human remains, mainly skeletal, but which are also sometimes depicted in ancient arts. Trephination, artificial interference, sword and spear wounds, deformities of endocrine origin, evidence of poisoning, and

the simulation of pathological conditions by post-mortem changes are all discussed. To determine what their bones can tell us about our ancestors, their ways of life, their diseases, and their expectation of length of life is always fascinating even if we can only seldom check our deductions and speculations against what really happened.

Dr. Wells presents a clearly written and instructive text which will be understandable to and appreciated by many of his readers. In some respects he has to follow well-trodden paths, mainly because of the paucity of relevant material, and the expert may consider some statements a little too dogmatic and uncritical. However, he brings the past to life in a gracious manner and not without some shrewd comments and entertaining asides. There are many dangers about being too didactic in one's opinions in this type of analysis of what might have happened. Dr. Wells is aware of these caveats and in the space available to him does discuss the changing nature of disease, differences in diet, climate, way of life, social structure and mores, and other factors that could influence one's conclusions. His enthusiasm for accepting Harris's lines in radiographs as evidence for disease will not be shared by everyone, and, despite Professor William Wright's conclusions, this reviewer doubts if the last has been heard about the Princes in the Tower. These and other matters are controversies for the expert, and great fun they are. Let it be hoped that Dr. Wells's passionate interest, an interest that burns brightly throughout the book, will inspire others to venture into this absorbing subject.

R. J. HARRISON.

Books Received

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

Management of Oral Emergencies. By Daniel M. Laskin, D.D.S., M.S. (Pp. 107+xv; illustrated. \$5.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Student Nurse in the Operating Theatre. By Elliot E. Philipp and K. L. Gearing. (Pp. 61 +viii; illustrated. 7s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1964.

Trends in the National Health Service. Edited by James Farndale. (Pp. 423+xiii. £5.) Oxford, London, New York, and Paris: Pergamon. 1964.

Horizontal Man. By Paul Bates and John Pellow. Foreword by Stirling Moss. (Pp. 190 +xvi; illustrated. 16s.) London: Longmans. 1964.

Orthopaedic Surgery. By Sir Walter Mercer and Robert B. Duthie. 6th edition. (Pp. 1,031 +xii; illustrated. £8 8s.) London: Edward Arnold. 1964.

Outlines of General Practice. Edited by A. J. Laidlaw, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S. Glasg. 3rd edition. (Pp. 71. 10s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1963.

Instrumentation for the Detection and Determination of Pesticides and their Residues in Foods. Los Angeles Meetings of the American Chemical Society. (Pp. 176; illustrated. DM. 26.) Berlin, Göttingen, Heidelberg: Springer. 1964.

What Do Young Children Need? Report of a One Day Conference. (Pp. 32. 3s. 6d.) London: U.K. National Committee of O.M.E.P. 1963.

Thyroid Gland. Edited by Rosalind Pitt-Rivers, Ph.D.Lond., F.R.S., and W. R. Trotter, D.M., F.R.C.P. In two volumes. (Vol. 1: Pp. 442 +xi; illustrated. £4 17s. 6d. Vol. 2: Pp. 325 +xi; illustrated. £3 15s. £8 5s. per set.) London: Butterworth. 1964.

Cataracts. Chemistry, Mechanisms, and Therapy. By Sidney Lerman, M.D., C.M. (Pp. 196+xvi; illustrated. \$9.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Selective Audio-Visual Instruction for Mentally Retarded Pupils. By Edward Goldstein, A.M. (Pp. 96+xv; illustrated. \$5.25.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Good Doctor Guillotin and His Strange Device. By André Soubiran. Translated by Malcolm MacGraw. (Pp. 224; illustrated. 25s.) London: Souvenir Press. 1964.

Natural Foci of Human Infections. Edited by Acad. E. N. Pavlovskii. Translated from Russian. (Pp. 201; illustrated. 72s.) London: Oldbourne. 1963.

Obstetrics. Concise Medical Textbook. By J. M. Holmes. (Pp. 256; illustrated. 15s.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1964.

Dermatology. Concise Medical Textbook. By R. M. B. MacKenna and E. Lipman Cohen. (Pp. 279+xviii. 17s. 6d.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1964.

Psychiatry. Concise Medical Textbook. By E. W. Anderson. (Pp. 296+vii. 16s.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1964.

Management of Internal Derangements of the Knee. By Arthur J. Helfet. (Pp. 230+xiv; illustrated. £4 10s.) Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott. London: Pitman. 1963.

Tropical Diseases. By Sir Alexander Biggan and Frederick J. Wright. Supplement to *Principles and Practice of Medicine*. Edited by Sir Stanley Davidson. (Pp. 1,417+xlii; illustrated. 10s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1964.

La Patologia della Determinazione e della Differenziazione del Sesso nell'Uomo. Clinica, Endocrinologia e Citogenetica. By Gian Angelo Zampa. (Pp. 163; illustrated. No price quoted.) Rocca San Casciano, Italy: Cappelli. 1963.

Operating Theatres and Ancillary Rooms. Proceedings of a Symposium under the Chairmanship of Lord Cohen of Birkenhead. Edited by T. Cecil Gray, M.D., F.F.A.R.C.S. Assisted by John Nunn, Ph.D., M.B., Ch.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (Pp. 285+xvi; illustrated. 52s.) Altringham, Cheshire: John Sherratt. 1964.

Health Progress in the United States. 1900-1960. Report of Health Information Foundation. By Monroe Lerner and Odin W. Anderson. (Pp. 354+xv. 48s.) London: University of Chicago Press. 1964.

Electrocardiography for the Anaesthetist. By W. N. Rollason. Foreword by William W. Mushin. (Pp. 124+xii; illustrated. 30s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1964.