

general practitioners. Towards this end a survey is given of the neuroses, the functional psychoses, personality disorders, disorders of childhood and adolescence, and mental retardation. A chapter called "Psychiatric treatment measures for use by the non-psychiatrist" is an introduction to forms of management open to the family doctor confronted in his work with mild or severe mental disability. A corresponding chapter for use by the psychiatrist is disappointing: it is over-simplified for the specialist and too obscure for those in training.

On the reference shelves of a medical school library the book would be widely used. But whether it will be appreciated by the "non-psychiatric" doctors in this country is open to question.

E. A. BENNET.

### SIR JOHN SIMON

*Sir John Simon 1816-1904.* By Royston Lambert. (Pp. 669. 63s.) London: MacGibbon and Kee. 1963.

The need for a biography of Sir John Simon has long been felt. Two at least of his successors began collecting material for it, but the extent of the field to be covered the apparent paucity of personal data, and the pressure of official duties prevented them from completing the task. The need has now been met by Dr. Royston Lambert, who has devoted several years of research to the problem. The fruit of his labours lies in this excellent and full biography. Dr. Lambert, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, is not a medical man but a social historian. Nevertheless, he shows on the whole an able evaluation of the medical questions arising in Simon's career.

John Simon was of French ancestry, well educated, and by profession a pathologist and surgeon. He was elected F.R.S. at 28 years of age for his researches on the physiology and anatomy of the thymus and thyroid glands. In

1853 he became full surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, London, and lectured, taught, and operated there up to 1876. He was President of the Royal College of Surgeons from 1878 to 1879. But his distinction as a surgeon pales before the monumental work in public health through which he achieved lasting fame.

Dr. Lambert describes Simon's services as the first medical officer of health of the City of London; his work on the medical advisory committee of the reconstituted General Board of Health—especially in coping with the epidemic of cholera—and his appointment as medical officer of the Board in 1855. When the Board was abolished Simon became medical officer of the Privy Council. Here his tactful diplomacy and, as he put it, "endeavours of the humblest kind" succeeded in founding a broad and enlightened department of State medicine. He enlisted a brilliant staff of medical inspectors and research workers, who toiled for small remuneration in investigating causes of disease and their prevention. Death rates diminished and epidemic diseases were controlled. Simon's annual reports taught the gospel of health in eloquent English prose.

When the Local Government Board was established as the central health authority Simon was its medical officer, but, thwarted by a dominant poor-law attitude, he resigned in 1876. His immediate successors, Dr. Seaton, Sir George Buchanan, Sir Richard Thorne Thorne, and Sir William Power, all of whom had served under him, worked in his tradition and continued to promote public health. Another medical officer, Sir Arthur Newsholme, founded and directed the first national health services. The author also refers to Simon's private life, its joys and sorrows.

This authoritative biography of one of England's greatest men is a landmark in the history of public health and social medicine.

ARTHUR S. MACNALT.

### BOOKS RECEIVED

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

*Wiederherstellende und Plastische Chirurgie. Volume II.* By Prof. Dr. med. Heinz Gelbke. (Pp. 230; illustrated. DM. 96.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1963.

*Report on the Sixteenth Congress of Scandinavian Neurologists-Oslo, 1962.* Edited by Sigvald Refsum, Hans M. Lossius, and Per Dietrichson. (Pp. 360; illustrated.) Copenhagen: Munksgaard. 1963.

*Studies in Surgery.* Dedicated to Helge B. Wulff, in honour of his 60th birthday, from his friends, pupils, and collaborators. (Pp. 260; illustrated.) Malmö, Sweden: Lundgrens Soner Boktryckeri. 1963.

*Value for Money in Medicine.* By John and Sylvia Jewkes. (Pp. 61+viii. 6s. 6d.) Oxford: Basil Blackwell. 1963.

*The Pathology of Development.* A Study of Inherited Skeletal Disorders in Animals. By Hans Gruneberg, Ph.D., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S. (Pp. 309+xiv; illustrated. 70s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1963.

*Indications and Techniques in Arterial Surgery.* By Peter Martin, V.R.D., M.Chir., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 111+vii; illustrated. 30s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

*Wound Healing and Management.* A Monograph for Surgeons. By D. M. Douglas, M.B.E., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 175+viii; illustrated. 60s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

*Congenital Malformations of the Rectum, Anus and Genito-Urinary Tracts.* By F. Douglas Stephens, D.S.O., M.S.(Melb.), F.R.A.C.S., Edited by Reginald Webster, M.D.(Melb.), D.Sc.(Melb.), F.R.A.C.P., F.C.P.A.(Hon.). (Pp. 370+xvi; illustrated. 63s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

*Les Gauchers.* By Henry Hecquen and Julian de Ajuriaguerra. (Pp. 171.) Paris: Presses Universitaires de France. 1963.

*The Undersea Challenge.* A Report of the Proceedings of the Second World Congress of Underwater Activities. Edited by Bernard Eaton. (Pp. 182+vi; illustrated. 25s.) British Sub-Aqua Club. 1963.

*Beitrag zur modernen Therapie, 5.* Edited by Dr. med. et rer. nat. Peter G. Hesse. (Pp. 376+xii; illustrated. DM. 61.20.) Jena: Veb Gustav Fischer. 1963.

*Freud.* A Critical Re-evaluation of His Theories. By Reuben Fine, Ph.D. (Pp. 271. 35s.) London: George Allen and Unwin. 1963.

*Personality Development and Psychopathology.* By Norman Cameron. (Pp. 793+xxi. 63s.) Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Company. London: H. K. Lewis and Co. Ltd. 1963.

*Chirurgia del Cancro del Colon e del Retto.* By Luigi Imperati. (Pp. 319+xii; illustrated.) Naples: Casa Editrice Idelson di E. Gnocchi e F. 1963.

*État Actuel de la Thérapeutique Chirurgicale de la Tuberculose Pulmonaire.* By J. Barrière. (Pp. 150; illustrated. NF. 32.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1963.

*Tulburare Vezicale in Traumatisme Medulare.* By Acad. Th. Burghel and V. Ichim. (Pp. 163; illustrated. Lei 20.50.) Bucharest: Editura Academiei Republicii Populare Romine. 1963.

*Chirurgische Operationen.* Volume 1. By Doz. Dr. H.-E. Grewe and Prof. Dr. Karl Kremer. (Pp. 357+xii; illustrated. DM. 98.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1963.

*The Allergic Child.* Edited by Frederic Speer, M.D. (Pp. 600+xii; illustrated. \$16.50.) New York, Evanston, and London: Harper and Row. 1963.

*Doctor and Patient: Ethics, Morale, Government.* The Rock Carling Fellowship. By Sir Robert Platt, Bt. (Pp. 87. 5s.) The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust. 1963.