

immunity, control, and the influence of parasites on the human race.

A subject index and list of works for further reading add greatly to the value and interest of this very readable book, which contains in its 320 pages an amount of information that might normally be expected to fill two or three large textbooks. The illustrations, which comprise life-cycle diagrams, anatomical details, and photographic plates, are of a high standard.

J. J. C. BUCKLEY.

Psychiatry in Brief

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

This is one of the series of "Concise Medical Textbooks" which are replacing the Students Aid Series founded in 1876. Most medical students have possessed one or more of these little brown volumes and most of us found them indigestible: like so many textbooks, bought rather than read. These are being replaced by a new series of small textbooks, and this volume on psychiatry is a completely new book replacing the old "Aids to Psychiatry."

It has to be reviewed, therefore, as a small introductory textbook on psychiatry, and as such it seems to have no conspicuous merits or demerits compared with, say, Curran and Partridge's *Psychological Medicine*, except that it is rather smaller. The writing is notably concise, but it is remarkable how Professor Anderson has covered the essentials of psychiatry in such a small compass, and remarkably little of importance is omitted. This conciseness, of course, makes for difficulties—for example, the author says that "every case of epilepsy must be investigated thoroughly." This is good advice, but it would take more space than can be afforded

to indicate why for one case an x-ray skull and electroencephalogram are sufficient investigation, while in another case every investigation is done that can elucidate the aetiology. Conciseness necessarily makes for a certain dogmatism, but as most of the facts are generally accepted this is not a disadvantage. However, there are occasions when Professor Anderson trenchantly expresses his views on some controversial point. The ascending reticular formation, for example, which has been steadily increasing in size in cross-sections of the brain-stem over the last 20 years, is discussed as being "very hypothetical."

It is difficult to choose any particular chapter for special mention, but that on psychopathology is particularly good, and it is made clear that psychopathology is not synonymous with nor encompassed by the psychology of the Freudian and allied schools.

This book is particularly useful as an aide-memoire to the student and practitioner who have read the bigger books.

A. W. BEARD.

Ian Aird

A Time to Heal. The Life of Ian Aird, the Surgeon. By Hugh McLeave. (Pp. 278 + ix; illustrated. 30s.) London: Heinemann. 1964.

This book gives a faithful, frank, and very interesting account of the life of a distinguished surgeon, Ian Aird, who possessed great talents, tremendous energy, high ideals, a capacity for concentrated mental and physical work, a kindly disposition, and a sensitive spirit that was easily roused to righteous indignation. Unfortunately he was unwilling to allow his mind and body their necessary relaxation and repose.

Ian Aird had a distinguished academic career at the George Watson College and Edinburgh University Medical School. He

had a photographic and retentive memory and worked very hard. He seemed to learn foreign languages (including Russian) without difficulty and spoke and wrote his mother tongue with ease and elegance. He became a popular teacher and was soon elected to the staff of the Children's Hospital, Edinburgh. Then came the 1939–45 war, in which he served as surgeon to an advanced operating unit in North Africa. A thrilling account is here given of his experiences, for which he was twice mentioned in dispatches.

Soon after his return he was elected to succeed Grey Turner as professor of surgery at the Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith. Here he gathered round him a band of men who did pioneer work on the extracorporeal circulation, the grafting of viscera, and other projects which he encouraged, and for which he did his best to obtain the necessary money. When unsuccessful in obtaining sufficient funds he became depressed and sometimes indignant. He himself, in addition to routine work, carried out research work on the relation between the blood-groups and disease and, on the operative side, became famous for his operations to sever Siamese twins. His world-wide celebrity had its drawbacks. He was asked to do so much in various parts of the world that he attempted too much. In 1961 he penned a note in which he mentioned 15 countries he had visited "during the last year or so," in most cases by separate journeys. He was at this time revising his great and valuable surgical work *Companion in Surgical Studies*, but his earlier speed and concentration had declined and he felt depressed. Yet he seemed unable to permit himself a complete rest, which was obviously so necessary. The ending was sad but the lesson is clear.

Every surgeon who knew Ian Aird will echo the words which Sir Arthur Porritt spoke about him in his memorial address: "We admired him, we respected him; for all his faults, we loved him."

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Books Received

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

The Staffing of Public Health and Out-patient Nursing Services. Methods of Study. By Doris E. Roberts, R.N., M.P.H. (Pp. 101. 6s. 8d.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1963.

Theoretical Analysis of Radio-Strontium Metabolism and Deposition in Humans. By Fredrik C. Gran and Ragnar Nicolaysen. (Pp. 31. 20s.) Universitetsforlaget, Norway. London: Dawsons of Pall Mall. 1964.

I Swear by Apollo. . . . The Life of a Doctor. By P. T. Regester, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Pp. 132; illustrated. 15s.) Reading: Educational Explorers Limited. 1964.

Present to Heal. By the Rev. Walter Fancutt. (Pp. 104; illustrated. 3s. 6d.) London: The Mission to Lepers. 1964.

Pharmaceutical Emulsions and Emulsifying Agents. By Robert Frank White, B.Pharm.,

Ph.D., M.P.S. 4th edition. Original Text by Lawrence M. Spalton, B.Pharm., M.P.S. (Pp. 170 + vii; illustrated. 15s.) London: The Chemist and Druggist. 1964.

Physiology of the Nervous System. By E. Geoffrey Walsh, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 615 + xv; illustrated. 50s.) London: Longmans, Green and Co. Ltd. 1964.

Manual of Clinical Nutrition. By Robert S. Goodhart, M.D., and Michael G. Wohl, M.D. (Pp. 279. 41s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1964.

Hormones and Evolution. By E. J. W. Barrington, M.A., D.Sc. (Pp. 154 + viii; illustrated. 15s.) London: The English Universities Press Ltd. 1964.

The Hormones. Volume IV. Edited by Gregory Pincus, Kenneth V. Thimann, and E. B. Astwood. (Pp. 688 + xiii; illustrated. £7 17s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1964.

Chelation Therapy. By Alfred Soffer, M.D., et al. (Pp. 163 + ix; illustrated. \$8.00.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Nurse Among the Eskimos. By Donalda M. Copeland and Eugenie Louise Myles. (Pp. 250; illustrated. 25s.) London: Souvenir Press. 1964.

Staphylokokken in Klinik und Praxis. Biologie, Epidemiologie, Therapie und Infektion. Edited by Prof. Dr. Ludwig Grun. (Pp. 289 + xi; illustrated. DM. 45.) Stuttgart: Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft M.B.H. 1964.

Protides of the Biological Fluids. Proceedings of the Eleventh Colloquium, Bruges, 1963. Edited by H. Peeters. (Pp. 536 + xii; illustrated. £7.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier Publishing Company. 1964.

Contributions to Interference Microscopy. By Wolfgang Krug, Joachim Rienitz, Gunter Schulz. Translated by J. Home Dickson. (Pp. 394 + vi; illustrated. £6 6s.) London: Hilger and Watts. 1964.

An Outline of Pulmonary Function and Pulmonary Emphysema. By Eugene Rosenman, M.D. (Pp. 137 + xii. \$6.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.