

workers, marriage counsellors, and educationists. It is the editor's hope that this may be the first of a series of volumes to be published by the Society; in that case it would be preferable if the time interval between presentation and publication—as much as five years for some of the papers—could be appreciably curtailed.

G. I. M. SWYER.

Interpreting the E.C.G.

An Introduction to Electrocardiography. By L. Schamroth, M.B., B.Ch.(Rand), M.R.C.P.(Edin.), M.R.C.P.(Glasg.). 2nd edition. (Pp. 165+x; illustrated. 20s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

The second edition of this excellent introduction to electrocardiography will be welcomed by undergraduate students and those requiring a simple, short account of this subject. The book is essentially a practical manual about the use of electrocardiography as a diagnostic tool. Explanations of some of the basic principles of the underlying electrophysiology are given in broadly simplified terms and kept as brief as possible.

The first portion of the book deals with abnormalities of the P, QRS, and T waves and their clinical significance. The second portion is devoted to the arrhythmias, which are very fully covered in relation to the small size of the book. Finally there is an excellent chapter on hints and tips in electrocardiographic interpretation and reporting. The illustrations and diagrams are clear and there is a short bibliography at the end of each chapter.

J. P. D. MOUNSEY.

Books Received

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

Colloquium on Intravenous Feeding. Held at the Royal Society of Medicine, London, 1-2 May 1962. Edited by Prof. Dr. A. Wretling. (*Nutritio et Dieta*, Vol. 5, No. 3-4, pp. 295-429.) Basle, New York: S. Karger. London: Bailey Bros. & Swinfen Ltd. 1963.

Textbook of Otolaryngology. By David D. DeWeese, M.D., and William H. Saunders, M.D. 2nd edition. (Pp. 523; illustrated. 69s. 6d.) Saint Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. 1964.

The Medical Inspection of Labour. Report of the International Symposium on the Medical Inspection of Labour and Related Papers. Occupational Safety and Health Series, No. 2. (Pp. 104. No price quoted.) Geneva: International Labour Office. 1964.

Man at Work. Studies on the Application of Physiology to Working Conditions in the Subtropical Country. By E. Rohwö Christensen. Occupational Safety and Health Series, No. 4. (Pp. 49. No price quoted.) Geneva: International Labour Office. 1964.

Occupational Health Problems in Agriculture. Report of the Fourth Session of the Joint I.L.O./W.H.O. Committee on Occupational Health and Related Papers. Occupational Safety and Health Series, No. 1. (Pp. 233. No price quoted.) Geneva: International Labour Office. 1963.

Gout and Rheumatism

A Short History of the Gout and the Rheumatic Diseases. By W. S. C. Copeman, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 236+ix; illustrated. 48s.) Los Angeles and Berkeley: University of California Press. 1964.

Dr. Copeman is a specialist on gout and the rheumatic diseases. In addition he is eminent as a medical historian, and by establishing the Faculty of the History of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Society of Apothecaries has enhanced the historical study of medicine. His book is introduced in a foreword by Professor C. D. O'Malley.

In a series of lectures delivered by Dr. Copeman in 1962 at the University of California he included one on the history of gout. This he has now amplified and for good measure has added a history of related maladies, "the entire excruciating court of this realm," to use Professor O'Malley's apt description.

Gout has a long history. It was known to Hippocrates and to Aretaeus of Cappadocia. The latter recognized heredity in the malady and referred to "the gouty diathesis," a term which was used by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as a title for his M.D. Edinburgh thesis. The anatomical, pathological, and descriptive work of Todd, Bichat, Garrod, Sir William Roberts, and other scientific physicians of the nineteenth century led to the present recognition of gout as a separate and specific biochemical disorder. Much interesting information is given on the treatment of gout by colchicum and on historical victims of the disease.

In Chapter VIII on acute rheumatism and chorea it is pleasing to read a tribute paid to the research work of F. J. Poynton and A.

Payne on the aetiology of this disease, for many years to Poynton's sorrow a controversial subject; and also a reference to the public health aspect. Rheumatoid arthritis, like gout, has a long pedigree, being a prevalent disease of the ancient Egyptians and Nubians. Among its sufferers were Christopher Columbus and Mary Queen of Scots, who derived much benefit from the warm baths at Buxton Spa owned by her custodian, the Earl of Shrewsbury. J. A. Glover's report on the rheumatic diseases (Ministry of Health, 1924) aroused worldwide interest and initiated the foundation of the Empire Rheumatism Council and the American Committee for the Control of Rheumatism.

Chapters on the history of ankylosing spondylitis, osteoarthritis, and non-articular rheumatism ("fibrositis") complete this important study, which so well and ably confirms Osler's dictum that "Medicine and its History are one."

ARTHUR S. MACNALT.

For most doctors expense accounts are probably a subject of laughter rather than calculation, so an appropriate introduction to the subject is Richard Gordon's latest book, *Nuts in May* (Heinemann, 15s. net, pp. 192). A not too scrupulous peer returns from Hong Kong, whither he had found it expedient to travel some years previously, and back in London he finds the heady air of spring much to his taste. He, his nephew, and their friends divert themselves (and the reader) with their frolics. In his usual vein Richard Gordon brings to his description of their affairs an amusing and never cruel pen. This is a book for beach or bed, not the study.

Principles of Clinical Electrocardiography. By Mervin J. Goldman, M.D. 5th edition. (Pp. 377. 42s.) Los Altos, California: Lange Medical Publications. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

Advances in Treatment of Menstrual Dysfunction. Edited by Alvin F. Goldfarb, M.D. (Pp. 188; illustrated. 30s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1964.

Adaptation of Work to Man and Occupational Health Problems in Countries Undergoing Industrial Development. Occupational Safety and Health Series, No. 3. (Pp. 19. No price quoted.) Geneva: International Labour Office. 1964.

Centipedes of the British Isles. By E. H. Eason, M.A., M.B.(Cantab.), F.L.S. (Pp. 294+x; illustrated. 63s.) London and New York: Frederick Warne & Co. Ltd. 1964.

Eléments de Séminologie Neurologique. By C. Coers. (Pp. 226; illustrated. 28 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1964.

Traitement Chirurgical des Prolapsus Génitaux. By R. Merger, J. Levy, J. Melchior, and J. Barrat. (Pp. 74; illustrated. 26 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1964.

Le Prognostic Radiologique de l'Accouchement. By A. Dardenne, with the collaboration of S. Remouchamps. (Pp. 172; illustrated. 25 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1964.

Excitatory and Inhibitory States of the Brain. By B. N. Klovskii and E. N. Kosmarskaya. Translated from the Russian. (Pp. 460; illustrated. 96s.) London: Oldbourne Press. 1963.

Operation and Control of Water Treatment Processes. By Charles R. Cox. (Pp. 390; illustrated. 37s. 6d.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1964.

Problèmes de Métabolisme Respiratoire et d'Oxydations Cellulaires. Edited by J. André Thomas. *Exposés Actuels de Biologie Cellulaire*. 1963. (Pp. 399; illustrated. 75 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1964.

Le Pancréas. Edited by Guy Albot and Félix Poilleux. (Pp. 310; illustrated. 76 F.) Paris: Masson et Cie. 1964.

Acquisitions Médicales Récentes. Journées Médicales Annuelles de Broussais-La Charité. 1964. Edited by Professor Pasteur Valléry-Radot and Professor P. Milliez. (Pp. 378; illustrated. Price not stated.) Paris: Expansion Scientifique Française. 1964.

Proceedings of the World Forum on Syphilis and Other Treponematoses. Washington, D.C., 4-8 September 1962. Sponsors: American Social Health Association, American Venereal Disease Association, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Public Health Service. (Pp. 521; illustrated. \$4.00.) Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Public Health Service Communicable Disease Center, Venereal Disease Branch. 1964.

The Theory of Complete Tooth Nutrition. By Alfred Aslander. (Pp. 16; illustrated. 7s.) Stockholm: The Division of Agriculture, the Royal Institute of Technology. 1964.

Food Science and Technology. By Magnus Pyke, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C., F.R.S.E. (Pp. 211+ix; illustrated. 30s.) London: John Murray. 1964.