

rare in Great Britain; recent knowledge about red-cell enzymes is also included. A useful short account of hypochromic anaemias not due to iron deficiency appears, but the account of iron-deficiency anaemias might well have been longer, especially in view of their frequency. The recommended treatment of iron-deficiency anaemia is very conservative; hardly anything is said about the many useful alternatives to ferrous sulphate, and no mention is made of the "slow-release" iron preparations. The discussion of the treatment of Hodgkin's disease is, however, excellent, and will give the student a good idea of the difficulties encountered and the means available for dealing with them; the recommended mustard drugs are up to date. Other new topics include a discussion of Burkitt's lymphoma, the use of melphalan for the treatment of myeloma, and the auto-immune studies linking pernicious anaemia and thyroid disease. Chronic myeloid leukaemia has been removed from the chapter on myeloproliferative diseases and now has a chapter to itself. New techniques such as those utilizing radioactive isotopes, serum-B₁₂ and folate-level estimations, and the Figlu test for folic-acid deficiency are discussed with the conditions to which they apply, and no special prominence is given to them. This fits in with the author's object of keeping laboratory technical detail to the minimum, a decision which is surely correct in a book designed for undergraduates.

M. C. G. ISRAËLS.

Actions of Drugs

Pharmacology and Therapeutics. 6th edition. By Arthur Grollman, Ph.D., M.D., F.A.C.P. With collaboration of Evelyn Frances Grollman, A.B., M.D. (Pp. 1181; illustrated. £5 12s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

This is the sixth edition of a textbook first published 14 years ago. It resembles in its format and its manner of presentation the textbook by Cushing which was so familiar to my generation. This perhaps is not surprising, since Professor Grollman was responsible, many years ago, for the production of several revisions of this famous standard work. A knowledge of the use of drugs and of their toxic effects is essential for the satisfactory practice of medicine to-day. It should be based on information about their effects in laboratory animals, where conditions can be controlled so much more effectively than in man. But the clinician is primarily interested in the effects of drugs on sick human beings, and in spite of the vast range of medicaments now available to him he tends to use a relatively small number of substances which he has found from experience to be effective, and with whose possible toxic effects he has made himself familiar. The problem of the teacher is to provide enough background information based on animal experiments to make the mechanism of the action of drugs intelligible to the student, and to explain to him how much of this is relevant to the treatment of patients. The controlled clinical trial has

now made it possible to state, with much more conviction than was previously possible, that a given drug will produce the desired effect. Often the most effective member of a series of related substances can be specified.

This book deals well and clearly with the pharmacological actions of drugs. It is comprehensive in its scope and fully up to date, so that drugs very recently introduced into medical practice are described. The tables in it list all the available drugs in a given series—for example, 24 barbiturates, 27 corticosteroids, 32 antihistamines, and 7 mercurial diuretics. Numerous structural formulae are provided. This encyclopaedic approach is of great help to the established clinician who wishes to find out about a drug with which he is not familiar, but the student who used it would know what drugs are available but would not know how he should make a choice. Clinical trials and placebos are not mentioned in the index and receive only scanty reference in the text.

The book is clearly written and the material in it is well set out. I found much of it, and particularly the section on hormones, interesting. I imagine, however, that the average British undergraduate would conclude that he would never assimilate more than a fraction of its contents, and would turn with relief to a less comprehensive, more selective, and more critical account of the subject. I think he would be right.

EDWARD WAYNE.

Books Received

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

From Auscultation to Phonocardiography. By Aldo Luisada, M.D. (Pp. 351+x; illustrated. £6 13s.) London: Henry Kimpton. Saint Louis: C. V. Mosby. 1965.

Surgery of the Parotid Gland. By Robin Anderson, M.D., F.A.C.S., and Louis T. Byars, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 177+vii; illustrated. 96s.) London: Henry Kimpton. Saint Louis: C. V. Mosby. 1965.

Ophthalmology. Principles and Concepts. By Frank W. Newell, M.D., M.Sc. (Ophth.), F.A.C.S. (Pp. 491+x; illustrated. 92s.) London: Henry Kimpton. Saint Louis: C. V. Mosby. 1965.

Textbook of Obstetrics. By John C. Ullery, M.D., and Zeph J. R. Hollenbeck, M.D. (Pp. 752+xiv; illustrated. £12 11s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. Saint Louis: C. V. Mosby. 1965.

Handbook of Practical Urology. By Richard Clark Hirschhorn, M.D. (Pp. 222; illustrated. 63s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

Lipids and Amino Acids and Related Compounds. Comprehensive Biochemistry. Vol. 6. Edited by Marcel Florkin and Elmer H. Stotz. (Pp. 323+xiv. £4 15s.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier. 1965.

Clinical Anticoagulant Therapy. By I. Myron Vigran, M.D., M.S.(in Med.). (Pp. 315; illustrated. £5 12s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

Mother To Be. By Carlo Valenti, M.D. (Pp. 156+xi; illustrated. \$3.95.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1965.

Joseph, Lord Lister, O.M. A List of the Original Writings. By William LeFanu. (Pp. 20. 3s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

The Process of Ageing. By Alex Comfort. (Pp. 151. 27s. 6d.) London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 1965.

Current Concepts in Surgery. A Clinical Interpretation of Basic Knowledge. Edited by John H. Davis, M.D. (Pp. 390+x; illustrated. £6.) New York, Toronto, Sydney, and London: McGraw-Hill. 1965.

Accident Surgery. Vol. 3. Edited by H. Fred Moseley, M.A., D.M., M.Ch.(Oxon.), F.R.C.S. (Eng. and Canada), F.A.C.S. (Pp. 362+x; illustrated. \$12.00.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1965.

The Breath of Life. By Donald E. Carr. (Pp. 175. 21s.) London: Victor Gollancz. 1965.

Biophysical Mechanisms in Vascular Homeostasis and Intravascular Thrombosis. Edited by Philip N. Sawyer, M.D. (Pp. 379+xv; illustrated. \$8.95.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1965.

Synopsis of Cardiology. By William I. Geffer, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.P., Bernard H. Pastor, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.P., and Ralph M. Myerson, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 874+xii; illustrated. 73s. 6d.) St. Louis: C. V. Mosby. London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

Myokardose-Myokarditis. Morphologie und Pathogenese. By Gerd Gabler. (Pp. 215; illustrated. £4 4s.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1965.

On Being Mindful of Man. Essay Toward a Proactive Psychology. By Hubert Bonner. (Pp. 239+viii. £1 12s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1965.

The Amino Sugars. The Chemistry and Biology of Compounds Containing Amino Sugars. Vol. 2A. Distribution and Biological Role. Edited by Endre A. Balazs and Roger W. Jeanloz. (Pp. 591+xxvi. £8 16s.) London and New York: Academic Press. 1965.

The History of Paediatrics. The Progress of the Study of Diseases of Children up to the End of the XVIIIth Century. Reprint edition. By George Frederic Still, M.A., M.D.(Cantab.), Hon. LL.D.(Edin.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.). (Pp. 526+xviii; illustrated. £5 10s.) London: Dawsons. 1965.

Obstetrics. From Original Text of Joseph B. De Lee, M.D. 13th edition. By J. P. Greenhill, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S.(Hon.), F.A.C.O.G. (Pp. 1246+xviii; illustrations. £7.) London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. 1965.

Thoracic Surgery. Vol. 2. Edited by Colonel Arnold Lorentz Ahnfeldt, M.C., U.S.A. (Pp. 615+xxvii; illustrated. \$7.25.) Washington: Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. 1965.

The Thalassaemia Syndromes. By D. J. Weatherall, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 272+viii; illustrated. 45s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1965.

The Handicapped Child and His Home. By Mary D. Sheridan, O.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.C.H. (Pp. 63. 7s. 6d.) London: National Children's Home. 1965.

Utopiates. The Use and Users of LSD 25. By Richard Blum and associates. (Pp. 303+xvi. 58s.) London: Tavistock. 1965.

The Medical Annual. A Year Book of Treatment and Practitioners' Index. 83rd year. Edited by Sir Ronald Bodley Scott, K.C.V.O., M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P., and R. Milnes Walker, C.B.E., M.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Pp. 554+xxiv; illustrated. 50s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1965.