

other classes of anti-tumour compounds. This book records the proceedings of a symposium held in Cambridge in June 1965 to review the clinical experience gathered from its use in this country in some 500 patients over the preceding two years. Hodgkin's disease is the main condition in which this drug is of undoubted value. It can produce good remission in about half and perhaps more of the patients, it acts quite rapidly with relatively few side-effects, and a response can sometimes be obtained in patients whose disease has apparently become refractory to conventional agents. In the so-called "solid tumours" the results were much less impressive, but there was occasional benefit in, for instance, bronchial carcinoma and disseminated melanoma.

The symposium concluded that ibenz-methylin is a useful drug in the management of generalized Hodgkin's disease, but its precise place in the "conventional ladder of therapy" remains to be decided. Meanwhile what Dr. Jelliffe so aptly termed the "casual chemotherapist" must not be stimulated into giving the drug to patients with more limited Hodgkin's disease, who are better treated by radiotherapy, and about 40% of whom may survive for 10 years.

Concise, well documented, and well indexed, this book is just what symposial proceedings should be.

ARTHUR JONES.

Abdominal Operations

Intra- und Postoperative Zwischenfälle. Vol. 2. Abdomen. Edited by Prof. Georg Brandt, Prof. Hubert Kunz, and Prof. Rudolf Nissen. (Pp. 326; illustrated. DM. 88.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1965.

German-speaking medical men seem to like large "handbooks" composed of many volumes and it is therefore not surprising that a work on intra-operative and post-operative complications should have been published in three volumes.

In this, the second volume, complications arising during and after abdominal operations are discussed. The authors of the various chapters concentrate mainly on abdominal complications and little is said about generalized post-operative disturbances.

Probably because this is a book written by many authors there is occasionally a curious imbalance between the various chapters. One would have thought, for instance,

that post-operative peritonitis merited more than nine pages, when complications of hernia operations are discussed in a chapter of more than 20 pages.

All the contributors are surgeons with wide experience who are experts in the subject they discuss. The very long chapter on "Stomach and Duodenal Complications," written by Nissen, and that on "Complications of Gall Bladder and Bile Duct Surgery," by Kunz, are especially good.

The volume is beautifully produced and the very large number of illustrations are of exceptional quality. The excellent production accounts probably for the price of £8 for this relatively small book.

P. P. RICKHAM.

Spinal Cord Pathology

Pathology of the Spinal Cord. By J. Trevor Hughes, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.P., D.Path. (Pp. 196+ix; illustrated. 40s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1966.

This is a concise, well-written, and interesting account of spinal-cord pathology. It is well produced and illustrated, and contains at the end of each chapter an adequate list of references to the literature. There are eight sections dealing with different aspects of the subject, as well as others dealing with the histology of the normal spinal cord and its necropsy examination. In addition to descriptions of the underlying pathology there are appropriate references to the clinical picture and genetic aspects of the conditions discussed. The author's reference to his personal experience, and his opinions based on this, add interest to his writing, and the book should be a popular one.

J. E. A. O'CONNELL.

Paediatric Therapy

Current Pediatric Therapy. 1966-1967. By Sydney S. Gellis, M.D., and Benjamin M. Kagan, M.D. (Pp. 956+xli; illustrated. £6 2s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders. 1966.

The number of contributors to this volume has been increased from 247 to 288 and the number of pages from 747 to 956, and some 40% of the authors have been changed. Many of the original contributors have revised their sections, and this edition fully

maintains the standard set by its predecessor. The editors are to be congratulated on their selection. They state that it is their intention to produce a new edition every two years and to continue making changes among the contributors. This will certainly prevent stagnation and add interest to the volume. It is well produced, but has now just about reached its maximal dimensions for handling in comfort.

There are still criticisms, particularly of the index, which abounds in frustrating cross-references (such as "Cryptorchidism—See Testes undescended" and "Counseling, genetic—See Genetic counseling"). These reach their peak in a new section called "Roster of Drugs," in which the editors state that each therapeutic agent mentioned is listed alphabetically. For nearly half of them the reader is invited to "See elsewhere" for what he is seeking. However, if cholestyramine, amantadine, and 6-thioguanine are three which he seeks he will be disappointed, for they are not included in the roster. By some mischance there is no mention of phenylketonuria in this edition.

There are new sections on emotional problems of the adolescent, psychopharmacological agents, hypoxic encephalopathy, judgement in the use of drugs in cardiovascular disease and in management of the allergic child, hypertension, perinephric abscess, carbohydrate intolerance, and malabsorption. But nothing about acanthocytosis and toxic epidermal necrolysis is yet included, nor is there any discussion about subphrenic abscess. The three "judgement" sections are all good, the third being on the use of antimicrobial agents, which was in the first edition also.

With regard to the treatment recommended in the various conditions, it is in general informative, helpful, and practical. In discussing meningitis, however, the recommendation that a continuous intravenous drip should be started *routinely* as soon as the diagnosis is made—and should be kept going for 48 hours—is unlikely to be accepted by many paediatricians. Similarly, the suggestion that the multiple-puncture-disc method is the preferable way to perform B.C.G. vaccination is an expression only of the author's personal view.

Although the book has increased in size by more than 25%, the cost has gone up by only half a guinea, and it is very good value today and thoroughly recommended for all paediatric libraries.

WILFRID GAISFORD.

Books Received

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

Higher Cortical Functions in Man. By Aleksandr Romanovich Luria. Translated from Russian by Basil Haigh. (Pp. 513+xvi; illustrated. £6 6s.) London: Tavistock. 1966.

Old and Alone. A Sociological Study of Old People. By Jeremy Tunstall. (Pp. 344+xi. 45s.) London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1966.

Mammalian Cell Water. Physiologic and Clinical Aspects. By Edwin G. Olmstead, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 200. 60s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1966.

Comparability in International Epidemiology. Conference, Princeton, New Jersey, 1964. Edited by Roy M. Acheson. (Pp. 427. \$5.00.) New York: Milbank Memorial Fund. 1965.

Fundamentals of Research in Nursing. By David J. Fox, Ph.D. (Pp. 285+xi. \$7.95.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1966.

Les Appareils de Marche dans les Infirmités Neurologiques. By G. Duval-Beaupère and M. Maury. (Pp. 145+viii; illustrated. 32 F.) Paris: Masson. 1966.

Les Erreurs d'Enregistrement en Electrocardiographie. By A. H. Lemmerz and R. Schmidt. (Pp. 124; illustrated. 38 F.) Paris: Masson. 1966.

La Pratique de l'Angiographie. By J. Écoffier. (Pp. 288; illustrated. 70 F.) Paris: Masson. 1966.

La Biopsie Gastrique par Sonde. By Rodolfo Cheli. (Pp. 80+vii; 32 F.) Paris: Masson. 1966.

Neuropsychopathologie de l'Aphasie. By R. Tissot. (Pp. 114+vii; illustrated. 28 F.) Paris: Masson. 1966.

Fertility and Family Planning in the United States. By Pascal K. Whelpton, Arthur A. Campbell, and John E. Patterson. (Pp. 443+xxxiv. £5.) London: Oxford University Press. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1966.