

The book ends by a brief statement of the deficiencies, limits, and prospects of splenoportography, and Leger rightly points out that splenic injection and direct injection into selected portal radicals are complementary methods and not opposed to each other.

This is an excellent book and should be readily available to anyone interested in the pathological anatomy of the portal tree.

ALAN H. HUNT.

## Medical Emergencies

**Compendium of Emergencies.** 2nd edition. Edited by H. Gardiner-Hill, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 374+xiii. 60s.) London: Butterworth. 1965.

Let me say at once, in view of minor criticisms which will follow, that this book is of such importance that no general practitioner, registrar, house-physician, or house-surgeon should be without it. It is written by a team of experts. Other experts in particular fields will find points to criticize. The delay in producing this review is due to my asking the opinion of several such before writing it. Very few criticisms

were forthcoming, and many were due to minor differences of opinion on which, in fields wherein I could claim no expertise, I found it impossible to judge between the writers and their critics.

I might perhaps enter a plea for the use of the ergometer in distinguishing between the paralysis of myasthenia gravis and that of overtreatment with cholinergic drugs. The use of angiography after recovery from strokes is mentioned but perhaps insufficiently stressed. Some criticism has been made of the immediate use of glucose in diabetic coma, but here I side with the authors of the chapter. I have used something very like their method for 30 years, and I remember being called a liar by a distinguished professor of medicine because I claimed that only 10% of my patients died. The authors go further and write, "Hyperglycaemic coma should never reach a fatal termination." I would like to see the intravenous use of hydrocortisone mentioned as an emergency method of treatment in Addisonian crisis.

The use of thyroid B.P. in myxoedema coma should go unmentioned in the next edition. The antithyroid drugs are useless in the treatment of thyroid crisis, their effects being too long delayed; and I would like to see

some mention of such things as "the lytic cocktail" of Laborit and Huguénard, a criticism of little practical importance in view of the extreme rarity of this emergency in these days. It is generally admitted that neostigmine is useless in thyrotoxic myopathy, and its mention might be omitted next time. In the section on agranulocytosis it is suggested that potassium perchlorate is safer than the thiouracils, but it is not mentioned that carbimazole is safer than either. The excellent chapter on the hazards of medical procedures should be expanded to give far more information about the unwanted effects of drugs, and the sound warnings about anticoagulant therapy might be still more strongly stressed. In the chapter on poisoning too little detail is sometimes given: "Mannitol diuresis is much easier to set up and use [than an artificial kidney] and is very effective," but this statement doesn't help much.

These are minor and controversial criticisms. There is one which is neither. It would be unkind to single out a chapter or chapters, but in some places the writing is so slovenly that one wonders how it was passed as fit for printing.

RAYMOND GREENE.

## Books Received

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

**The Human Skull.** A Cultural History. By Folke Henschen. (Pp. 168; illustrated. 42s.) London: Thames & Hudson. 1966.

**Four Years On.** Studies in Child Development. By Stan Gooch and M. L. Kellmer Pringle. (Pp. 167+xii. 17s. 6d.) London: Longmans, Green. 1966.

**Ocular Pharmacology.** By William H. Havener, B.A., M.D., M.S.(Ophth.). (Pp. 456+viii; illustrated. £8 3s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1966.

**The Year Book of Endocrinology.** 1965-1966 Series. Edited by Theodore B. Schwartz, M.D. (Pp. 400; illustrated. 68s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1966.

**The Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology.** 1965-1966 Series. Edited by William B. Wartman, B.S., M.D. (Pp. 447; illustrated. 72s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1966.

**The Year Book of Orthopedics, Traumatic and Plastic Surgery.** 1965-1966 Series. Edited by H. Herman Young, M.D., and Neal Owens, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S. (Pp. 456; illustrated. 72s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1966.

**The Development of Medicine as a Profession.** By Vern L. Bullough. (Pp. 125. sFr./DM. 29.) Basle and New York: S. Karger. 1966.

**Histological Appearances of Tumours.** 2nd edition. By R. Winston Evans, Ph.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.C.Path. (Pp. 1,256+xii; illustrated. £10 10s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

**Microfabric of Man.** Textbook of Histology. By Warren Andrew, Ph.D., M.D. (Pp. 392+xvi; illustrated. 83s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1966.

**Atlas of Hernia Repair.** By Carl H. Calman, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 159+ix; illustrated. £6 6s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1966.

**Blacklock and Southwell's A Guide to Human Parasitology.** 8th edition. Revised by T. H. Davey, O.B.E., M.D.(Belf.), D.T.M.(Liver.). (Pp. 223+viii; illustrated. £1 15s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1966.

**Stereoscopic Atlas of Mastoidotomy and Plastic Surgery.** By Harold F. Schuknecht, M.D., Werner D. Chasin, M.D., and John M. Kurkjian, M.D. (Pp. 91+vii; illustrated+viewmaster and stereoscopic views. £9 18s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1966.

**The Ocular Fundus in Neurologic Disease.** A Diagnostic Manual and Stereo Atlas. By William Fletcher Hoyt, M.D., and Diane Beeston, A.B. (Pp. 128+xiii; illustrated. £13 2s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1966.

**The Citizen Surgeon.** A Biography of Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., F.R.C.S. 1857-1916. By J. B. Lyons. (Pp. 305; illustrated. 42s.) London: Peter Daway. 1966.

**Elektroencephalographie in Klinik und Praxis.** By Dr. Johann Kugler. (Pp. 203+xii; illustrated. DM. 38.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1966.

**Die Pyelonephritis.** By Professor H. Losse and Dr. M. Kienitz. (Pp. 463+xvi; illustrated. DM. 58.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1966.

**The Principles and Practice of Medicine.** 8th edition. By Sir Stanley Davidson, B.A.Cantab., M.D., F.R.C.P.Edin., F.R.C.P.Lond., M.D.Oslo, LL.D., F.R.S.Edin. (Pp. 1,342+ix; illustrated. 40s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

**Medical Electronics Equipment.** 1966-67. Edited by G. W. A. Dummer, M.B.E., M.I.E.E., Sen.Mem.I.R.E., M.Brit.I.R.E., and J. MacKenzie Robertson. (Pp. 892+xii; illustrated. £8 10s.) Oxford: Pergamon. 1966.

**Noise.** An Occupational Hazard and Public Nuisance. By Alan Bell. (Pp. 131; illustrated. 10s.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1966.

**Asthma: Attitude and Milieu.** By Aaron Lask, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., M.C.G.P. (Pp. 237+xix. 35s.) London: Tavistock. 1966.

**Biology of Parasites.** Edited by E. J. L. Soulsby. (Pp. 354+xiv; illustrated. £5 8s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1966.

**Anamintica.** By A. Serra Peralba. (Pp. 477+xiv; illustrated. No price given.) Barcelona: Editorial Augusta. 1965.

**The EEG in Clinical Practice.** By John Laidlaw, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.P.E., and J. B. Stanton, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.C.P., D.P.M. (Pp. 128; illustrated. 40s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

**Variation in Chemical Composition of the Nervous System.** As Determined by Developmental and Genetic Factors. Edited by G. B. Ansell. (Pp. 119. 25s.) Oxford: Pergamon. 1966.

**Mental Subnormality.** By Richard L. Masland, Selmour B. Sarason, and Thomas Gladwin. (Pp. 442. 27s. 6d.) London: Basic. 1966.

**Tutors and their Students.** Advice from a Psychiatrist. By Myre Sim, M.D.(Edin.), D.P.M. (Pp. 70+v. 5s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

**La Chimiothérapie des Cancers.** A l'Usage du Praticien. By Georges Mathé. (Pp. 138; illustrated. 37 F.) Paris: Expansion Scientifique Française. 1966.

**Nursing the Elderly.** By Mary A. Hodgkinson. (Pp. 154+xiii; illustrated. 15s.) Oxford: Pergamon. 1966.

**Natürliche Proteinase-Inhibitoren.** By Dr. Rosmarie Vogel, Dr. Ivar Trauttschold, and Professor Eugen Werle. (Pp. 106+ix. DM. 29.70.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1966.

**Tissue Grafting and Radiation.** By H. S. Micklem and John F. Loutit. (Pp. 228+xii; illustrated. 56s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1966.

**Little Strokes.** By Walter Alvarez, M.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 190. 65s.) London: Pitman. 1966.

**Medical Education Reconsidered.** By Oliver Cope, M.D., and Jerrold Zacharias, Ph.D. (Pp. 95. 35s.) London: Pitman. 1966.