

without frank prior disclosure to their partner.

Despite these reservations this is a remarkable review of a baffling disorder and fills in many gaps in our knowledge. However, the ultimate fate of the transsexualist, with or without medical intervention, still remains in doubt.

SYDNEY BRANDON.

## Public and Private Preventive Medicine

**Preventive Medicine for the Doctor in His Community.** An Epidemiologic Approach. 3rd edition. By Hugh Rodman Leavell, M.D., Dr.P.H. and E. Gurney Clark, M.D., Dr.P.H. (Pp. 684+xvi. £5.) New York, Toronto, Sydney, and London: McGraw-Hill. 1965.

The third edition of this now famous textbook presents preventive medicine in its modern setting. Prevention of disease and promotion of health should be the prime objective of every doctor, and it is only if he thinks along these lines that he can do the best for those who consult him. There is no doubt that prevention of disease is becoming increasingly significant in all aspects of medical work, mainly as a result of greater knowledge of the multiple factors, physical, social, and environmental, which cause disease. The study of these factors and their relative significance is based on the epidemiological approach to disease—epidemiology being the research tool for investigating the natural history of diseases.

This approach is adopted throughout. First of all the present-day concept of epidemiology and preventive medicine is explained in detail. There are two facets to control—namely, prevention of disease in the community, the planning of which is the duty of governmental and other specialized health agencies; then there is prevention of disease in the individual who consults a doctor, and this is implicit in the duty of every medical practitioner.

The two aspects of preventive medicine are adequately covered, but this is essentially a book for the general reader. Part I, dealing with basic principles, is specially to be commended, as it deals in simple language with the whole epidemiologic approach to medical

problems, and has been improved and expanded in this edition. There is also an excellent and easily understandable chapter in biostatistics.

Part II deals with the application of the basic principles in particular medical fields such as maternal and child welfare, old age, and industrial and mental health. The final part of the book covers the community health services, introduced by a chapter on the doctor in his community which, although it deals with the United States scene, describes with accuracy and simplicity the role of the good doctor in the community.

This comprehensive textbook makes excellent reading and largely depicts preventive medicine and public health as practised in the United States, although comparisons are drawn with the services in this country. The earlier chapters, especially the one on epidemiology, will be of special interest to British readers, but the whole text is so well written that it is worthy of study. The main objective of the authors is to encourage the development of a point of view, a philosophy, and a method of approach to health promotion and disease prevention, and this is convincingly presented.

ANDREW B. SEMPLE.

## Wound Healing

**Wound Healing.** Symposium based upon the Lister Centenary Scientific Meeting, Glasgow, 1965. Edited by Sir Charles Illingworth, C.B.E., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.Ed. & Glasg., Hon. LL.D., Hon. F.A.C.S. (Pp. 289+xii; illustrated. 60s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1966.

The contributions from the distinguished international assembly present at the Lister Centenary Conference cover a range of widely diverse topics. The subject matter of the 23 papers is divided into four sections: (1) the local response to injury, (2) wound infections, (3) the constitutional response to injury, and (4) wound healing. Throughout the volume the emphasis is on the dynamic aspects of biological factors controlling the response to injury.

The conceptual horizons of the Listerian era have been brought into focus by the use of new and ingenious research methods. Many of them remain to be fully exploited

before the hypotheses which have been put forward can be tested. However, "the very multiplicity of respectable notions in this field is evidence of a technical and intellectual vigour in the attack on inflammation that promises well for the not too distant future" (Professor Sir Ashley Miles).

The first section is devoted largely to the mediators of cellular responses to injury, such as increased vessel permeability, cell mitosis, differentiation, and replacement. In the last paper on organ restoration H. K. Weinbren explores the possibility of control of restorative growth by a chemical mediation in terms of its source, nature, and target organs. The section on wound infection contains papers of great interest to clinicians. Appropriately the opening paper is on the use of wound antiseptics. In emphasizing the value of debridement and topical applications it is a fitting prelude to the very informative contribution by the late Professor Mary Barber on the problem of drug resistance. In the section on the constitutional response to injury the nutritional factors influencing the metabolic response are expounded in a most clear manner by H. N. Munro. In other papers, haemodynamics in shock, hypothermia, hyperbaric oxygen, anoxia, and acidosis are all dealt with in a manner meaningful to those who may be expected to apply the knowledge to clinical situations. The final section on wound healing emphasizes the importance of the local factors concerning the tensile strength of wounds. As in all preceding sections, information which may already be carried into clinical practice (N. Sandberg: "Factors Controlling Healing of Incised Wounds") is carefully balanced against that which may be of use in the future (T. K. Hunt: "Oxygen Tension in Healing Wounds").

In the final summary J. E. Dunphy raises the notion that the recipient of an elective wound will one day be able to receive pre-operatively those stimulants which will place him in a state of readiness to mount the ideal inflammatory response and thus expedite the healing of his wounded flesh. This is fitting foresight with which to cap the erudite contributions commemorating the centenary of Joseph Lister's *Antiseptic Treatment of Wounds*. This book has information to impart to many, but, more importantly, its ideas cannot fail to appeal to all.

F. G. ELLIS.

## Books Received

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

**Annals of Life Assurance Medicine.** 1967. Vol. 3. Edited by Swiss Reinsurance Co., Zurich. (Pp. 272; illustrated. DM. 42.) Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York: Springer. 1967.

**Handbuch der Speziellen Pathologischen Anatomie und Histologie.** Vol. 7. Part 5. Placenta. Edited by F. Strauss, K. Benirschke, and Shirley G. Driscoll. (Pp. 616+ix; illustrated. DM. 165.) Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York: Springer. 1967.

**The Year Book of General Surgery.** 1966-1967. Edited by Michael E. de Bakey, B.S., M.D., M.S. (Pp. 619; illustrated. 72s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1967.

**Encyclopedia of Urology.** Vol. XI/1. Tumours I, by Arthur Jacobs and Eric Riches. Organic Diseases, by Leslie N. Pyrah. (Pp. 286+xii; illustrated. DM. 128.) Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York: Springer. 1967.

**IPPF World Survey.** (1) Factors Affecting the Work of Family Planning Associations. By Catherine Howell. (Pp. 102+vii. 10s.) London: International Planned Parenthood Federation. 1967.

**IPPF World Survey.** (2) Focus on Latin America. Special Reports on Kenya and the Philippines. By Catherine Howell. (Pp. 40+iv. 5s.) London: International Planned Parenthood Federation. 1967.

**Advances in International Medicine.** Vol. 13. Edited by William Dock, M.D., and I. Snapper, M.D. (Pp. 303; illustrated. 83s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. 1967.

**Neuro-Ophthalmology.** Vol. 3. Symposium, Miami, 1966. Edited by J. Lawton Smith, M.D. (Pp. 439+xii; illustrated. £9 7s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1967.

**The Development of Sex Differences.** Edited by Eleanor E. Maccoby. (Pp. 351. 60s.) London: Tavistock. 1967.

**Pädiatrische Neurochirurgie.** Edited by Professor Joachim Gerlach *et al.* (Pp. 875+xix; illustrated. DM. 287.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1967.

**Humangenetik.** Vol. V/2. Psychiatrische Krankheiten. Edited by Professor P. E. Becker. (Pp. 613+xv; illustrated. DM. 190.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1967.

**Behaviour Problems Amongst Children with Cerebral Palsy.** By Maureen Oswin. (Pp. 93; illustrated. 15s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1967.