

effects on transport mechanisms. Most of the leading experts in their respective fields have contributed valuable and informative articles.

Those libraries which can afford to purchase this perhaps too-well-produced volume will find it very frequently referred to by their readers, for it contains a wealth of up-to-date technical information and detail, together with many valuable bibliographies.

C. L. COPE.

Dilemmas of the Medical Revolution

The New Dimensions of Medicine. By Alan Norton, D.M., D.P.M. (Pp. 288. 50s.) London: Hodder & Stoughton. 1969.

This book is one of a series of Twentieth Century Studies, the theme of which is "the interplay between ideas and events, between developments in theory and technique and developments in society itself, between men's needs and the means of meeting them." Modern medicine of course fits neatly into this definition, and the publishers have chosen a practising psychiatrist, the medicine-man of the twentieth century, to expound it.

Dr. Norton accomplishes this task with enthusiasm and thoroughness, but others have done it before him. The familiar triumphs and dilemmas are paraded and the usual arguments marshalled: the conquest of infection followed by the epidemic of degenerative disease, the new technology and who pays for it, double-edged drugs (and doctors), contraception and abortion, transplants and death, addiction, accidents, and carcinoma of the bronchus, the diseases of the permissive society—to mention but a few. There are also chapters on classifications of disease, medical education, organization of health services (excellent), and of course psychiatry.

The trouble is that Dr. Norton has been beaten to the post by the Sunday journalists, and even if his prose is more sober there is

nothing new to say. In fact I wondered what audience he had in mind. Doctors, I suspect, know the problems only too well, and are beginning to suffer from a surfeit of unanswerable questions about life and death, kidney machines, and the like. The thoughtful layman will profit from an informed review of the many difficulties thrown up by the medical revolution, but I doubt if he will make use of the numerous references to scientific journals. I personally enjoyed the book, but found it too large to be read comfortably in bed.

A. PATON.

Treatise on Atherosclerosis

Atherosclerosis. Pathology, Physiology, Aetiology, Diagnosis, and Clinical Management. Edited by F. G. Schettler and G. S. Boyd. (Pp. 1,029+xx; illustrated. 470s.) London: Elsevier. 1969.

This massive and comprehensive volume on atherosclerosis is the work of 27 contributors from various parts of the world, formulated under the editorship of F. G. Schettler and G. S. Boyd. It is actually a revision, enlargement, and extension of a book published in German in 1961 by the senior author and his collaborators, all of whom are also involved in the present venture. The purpose of the book is to deal with the current status of clinical research in atherosclerosis, with particular emphasis on therapeutic and prophylactic problems as related to aetiology and pathology. The results of experimental investigations in animals are included in the contents to a much lesser degree.

The first four chapters are devoted to the pathology of atherosclerosis: morphology, ultrastructure of vascular changes, histochemistry, and angiochemistry. The material is amply illustrated, 24 of a total of 39 colour plates being found in this section of the book. The various aspects of epidemiology are considered in chapter 5, which closes

with a summary of the available pertinent data and draws conclusions about the relative importance of epidemiologic research for proper understanding of the problem of atherosclerosis. Aetiological factors are presented in detail in chapter 6, and the remainder of the book is devoted to the clinical aspects. Here are described the diagnostic alterations in arteriosclerosis of the various regions in which it is found, including a chapter on the changes in the fundus. The last portion of this section deals with medical and surgical therapy for atherosclerosis. Finally, the effects of certain physical modalities and of conservative measures in the treatment of trophic changes in the extremities, as well as the surgical approach to the problem, are briefly presented.

An objection generally directed at multi-authored treatises is that frequently they are not an integrated account of a subject, but rather a compilation of a large number of papers, designated as chapters, lacking continuity, and containing repetition of material in various portions. Unfortunately, there is some basis for levelling such a criticism against this volume. The primary weakness is absence of uniformity in the manner in which the contents are presented. The designations and types of subheadings vary from chapter to chapter, as does the means used to cite the literature in the text. Included in a number of chapters are as many as 9 to 12 important subjects, with the result that several are 200 to almost 300 pages in length. Such a format, with reference lists being interspersed throughout the chapter at the end of each section, is not conducive to clarity of presentation. There is little question that firmer editorial direction would have added immeasurably to the value of the book.

Despite such shortcomings, this is a useful volume. It contains a very extensive bibliography covering almost all important aspects of atherosclerosis. Moreover, the various subjects are discussed in depth, which should prove of real help to the clinician in his practice and to the physician involved in research in the field.

DAVID I. ABRAMSON.

Books Received

Books noticed here may be reviewed later.

The Cardiff Diagnostic Classification Codes Designed for Use in Paediatric Departments. (Pp. 163. No price given.) London: British Paediatric Association. 1969.

Oral Surgery Procedures for General Dental Practice. By J. R. Moore, F.D.S., and Gillian V. Gillbe, F.D.S. (Pp. 63; illustrated. 8s. 6d.) London: British Dental Association. 1969.

Therapie in der Neurologie und Psychiatrie. By Werner Scheid and Eilon Gibbels. (Pp. 288+xii. DM. 9.80.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1969.

The Biology of Mosquito-Borne Disease. By P. F. Mattingly. (Pp. 182+xii; illustrated. Cloth 40s., paper 22s.) London: George Allen & Unwin. 1969.

Bedside Diagnostic Examination. 2nd edition. By E. L. DeGowin, M.D., and R. L. DeGowin, M.D. (Pp. 923+xii; illustrated. 95s.) London: Collier-Macmillan. 1969.

The Thyroid and the Blood. By G. R. Tudhope, F.R.C.P.E. (Pp. 102+vii; illustrated. 20s.) London: William Heinemann. 1969.

Notes on Medical Virology. 2nd edition. By Morag C. Timbury, M.C.Path. (Pp. 124+vii; illustrated. 10s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1969.

The Biologic Effects of Ultraviolet Radiation. (With Emphasis on the Skin.) Proceedings of the First International Conference sponsored jointly by the Skin and Cancer Hospital, Temple University Health Sciences Center, and the International Society of Biometeorology. Edited by Frederick Urbach, M.D. (Pp. 704+xv; illustrated. 300s.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1969.

Annual Report on the Health of the City of Sheffield. By Clifford N. Shaw, M.D., D.P.H. (Pp. 148. No price given.) Sheffield: City of Sheffield. 1969.

Clinical Scintillation Scanning. Edited by Leonard M. Freeman, M.D., and Philip M. Johnson, M.D. (Pp. 564+xii; illustrated. No price given.) New York: Hoeber Medical Division, Harper & Row. 1969.

A Matter of Life—DNA. By R. M. S. Smellie, F.R.S.E. (Pp. 95+vii; illustrated. 7s. 6d.) Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd. 1969.

Lehrbuch der Kinderheilkunde. Edited by Alfred Wiskott. (Pp. 1,172+xx; illustrated. DM. 89.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1969.

Chirurgie Gynécologique par Voie Vaginale. By Cl. Gauthier and Y. Malinas. (Pp. 160; illustrated. 40 F.) Paris: Librairie Maloine S.A. 1969.