

used in diagnostic investigations which are connected to mains can give rise to a large enough current through the patient's body to cause ventricular fibrillation if they are inadequately earthed.

Many major advances have been made in cardiac monitoring during the past five years, and a full account is given of these. The benefit of increased experience in the use of external cardiac massage is incorporated in chapters giving advice to resuscitation teams about methods to be used in and out of hospital and for different types of patient, such as the newborn and the elderly.

The book is well illustrated, and has a good bibliography. Owing to its multiple authorship there is a certain amount of overlapping, but it forms a most useful reference book, with the weight of authority of contributors of international renown drawn from all over the world.

J. P. D. MOUNSEY.

Airborne Gurkhas

With *Pegasus in India*: The Story of 153 Gurkha Parachute Battalion. Eric Neild. (Pp. 110; 20s.) Army School of Health. 1970.

That the Himalayan peasant Mongolian inhabitants of Nepal—called "Gurkhas" by the British—are tough and loyal soldiers is known to all. We owe them a great debt for their devoted service in two world wars.

Only a handful of old campaigners know of the existence of the Gurkha parachute battalion, and to raise funds for the Gurkha welfare appeal Colonel Eric Neild, late R.A.M.C., has written its history. He gives an almost day to day account of the formation, operations, and final disbandment of the 153 Gurkha Parachute Battalion which he served so valiantly and well. The hair-raising and highly dangerous early training with inexperienced instructors, faulty chutes, and unsuitable planes, the many tragic "Roman candles" in training, the psychological reactions to initial jumps, and the still more trying late refresher jumps are well described, as are the special methods involved in producing a droppable packed diet for Indian and Gurkha troops.

This R.A.M.C. officer found himself with Gurkha troops "by a set of curious chances," but his obvious toughness, fitness, and adaptability made his choice most apt. While in jungle warfare "training" in Upper Burma the battalion played a desperate and noble part behind the Japanese lines at a critical time. It is clear that Neild had a grasp of the political situation in India unequalled by that of most of his colleagues in the Indian services. From 1942—when India was the main base and supplier of the Middle East and Sino-Burmese theatres—it was itself a gigantic unexploded grenade with the pin out. Fortunately, few knew it. This interesting illustrated book can be obtained by sending £1 to Colonel Neild at the Army School of Health, Aldershot, Hants, and will also help a good cause.

GEORGE R. MCROBERT.

Family Doctoring 1970

The New General Practice—II. Articles published in the British Medical Journal. (Pp. 221; 25s.) British Medical Association. 1970.

In a few years' time the face of general practice is likely to change even more rapidly than in the recent past. A new mood and vigour is apparent. Many factors are contributing to the change, and some are recorded in the *New General Practice—II*, a book of 37 articles originally published in the *British Medical Journal*, and now brought together in a paperback. The book deserves to be widely read.

Much of the contents are concerned with the organization of health centres, record systems, the location of at-risk groups, and the role of the practice nurse. Dr. C. B. Floyd's article underlines the usefulness of a car service. If such a service were generally available a much needed improvement would be effected. A pointer to the future is given by the planners of the new city, Milton Keynes. They envisage the general practitioners' role as extending into the hospitals and fields of public and environmental health. A similar scheme already operates in Livingston. Elsewhere an opposite trend is occurring. A paper from Stockton-on-Tees shows the value of a paediatrician holding his clinic in a health centre. This trend too is to be encouraged.

Finally, a word of warning from Drs. A. R. May and Eva Gregory. They report that general practitioners are still not sufficiently well trained in psychiatry. Their warning is to be heeded.

W. DEWI REES.

Books Received

Books noticed here may be reviewed later.

Browne's Antenatal Care. 10th edn. J. C. McClure Browne, F.R.C.O.G. and Geoffrey Dixon, F.R.C.O.G. (Pp. 350; 60s.) J. & A. Churchill. 1970.

The Medical Writings of Moses Maimonides. Vol. 3. Treatise on Hemorrhoids Medical Answers (Responsa). Translated and Edited by Fred Rosner, M.D. and Sussman Muntner, M.D. (Pp. 79; 50s.) Blackwell. 1970.

Descriptive Catalogue of the Physiological Series in the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Part 1. (Pp. 292; 110s.) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Public Health and Community Medicine: For the Allied Medical Professions. L. E. Burton, Ph.D., and Hugh Hollingsworth Smith, M.D. (Pp. 561; 140s.) Williams & Wilkins. 1970.

Neurology of Early Childhood. Anatole Dekaban, M.D. (Pp. 488; 230s.) Williams & Wilkins. 1970.

Textbook of Disorders and Injuries of the Musculoskeletal System. Robert Bruce Salter, F.R.C.S. (Pp. 551; 180s.) Williams & Wilkins. 1970.

Mental Subnormality: Modern Trends in Research. Ed. B. W. Richards, D.P.M. (Pp. 260; 60s.) Pitman. 1970.

The Autonomic Nervous System: Morphological, Comparative, Clinical, and Surgical Aspects. Joseph Pick, M.D. (Pp. 483; 500s.) Blackwell. 1970.

Progress in Experimental Tumor Research. Vol. 13. Immunological Aspects of Neoplasia. Ed.

R. S. Schwartz, M.D. (Pp. 222; 136s.) S. Karger. 1970.

Parkinsonism: Physiology, Pharmacology, and Treatment. Donald B. Calne, D.M. (Pp. 136; 45s.) Edward Arnold. 1970.

The Biochemistry of the Cells of Blood and Bone Marrow. Joseph F. Seitz. (Pp. 248; \$18.75.) Charles C. Thomas. 1970.

System of Ophthalmology. Vol. 5. Ophthalmic Optics and Refraction. Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, G.C.V.O., F.R.S. and David Abrams, D.M., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 879; 230s.) Henry Kimpton. 1970.

Parents and Family Planning Services. Ann Cartwright. (Pp. 293; 60s.) Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1970.

The Child and Reality: Lectures by a Child Psychiatrist. T. A. Ratcliffe, D.P.M. (Pp. 141; 40s.) George Allen & Unwin. 1970.

Medical Readings on Drug Abuse. Oliver E. Byrd, M.D. (Pp. 274; 35s.) Addison-Wesley. 1970.

Pain and Suffering: Selected Aspects. Ed. B. L. Crue, jun., M.D. (Pp. 205; \$12.75.) Charles C. Thomas. 1970.

A Guide to Activities for Older People. M. Gwyneth Wallis. (Pp. 112; 12s. 6d.) Elek Books. 1970.

The Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Peter Beighton, M.D. (Pp. 194; 63s.) Heinemann. 1970.

Human Circadian Rhythms. R. T. W. L. Conroy, L.R.C.P.I., and J. N. Mills, M.D. (Pp. 236; 60s.) J. & A. Churchill. 1970.

Social Work and the Sociology of Organisations. Gilbert Smith. (Pp. 123; 28s.) Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1970.

Community Medicine: Teaching, Research and Health Care. Ed. Willoughby Latham, M.D. and Anne Newbery. Butterworths. 1970.

The Dying Patient. Ed. Orville G. Brim, jun. et al. (Pp. 390; 93s.) Russell Sage Foundation. 1970. U.K. Basic Books.

Coronary Care Unit. W. J. Grace, M.D. and V. Keyloun, M.D. (Pp. 223; 76s.) Butterworths. 1970.

The Mind of Man. Nigel Calder. (Pp. 288; 45s.) British Broadcasting Corporation. 1970.

Frozen Blood: A Review of the Literature 1949-1968. Arthur R. Turner, M.D. (Pp. 206; 125s.) Gordon & Breach. 1970.

The Hard of Hearing Child: Clinical and Educational Management. Ed. F. S. Berg, Ph.D. and S. G. Fletcher, Ph.D. (Pp. 363; \$12.75.) Grune & Stratton. 1970.

The Drugs Epidemic. Rt. Hon. William Deedes, M.P. (Pp. 160; 35s.) Tom Stacey. 1970.

Fractures of the Orbit. Proceedings of a Symposium held in Amsterdam April 1969. Ed. G. M. Bleeker and T. Keith Lyle. (Pp. 266; 147s.) Excerpta Medica. 1970.

Studies in Child Development: The Challenge of Thalidomide. M. L. Kellmer Pringle and D. O. Fiddes. (Pp. 102; 20s.) Longman. 1970.

Environment and Human Efficiency. E. C. Poulton, M.B. (Pp. 328; \$15.50.) Charles C. Thomas. 1970.