Books received

- In Pursuit of the Common Cold.* By SIR CHRISTOPHER ANDREWES. Pp. 112, illustrated. London: William Heinemann Medical Books, 1973. £3.35.
- The Population Problem.* By S. JOHNSON. David and Charles Sources for Contemporary Issues. Pp. 231. Newton Abbot: David and Charles, 1973. £4.50.
- Techniques in Abdominal Surgery.* By PHILIPPE DETRIE. Translated by R. R. L. Pryer. Pp. 119 with 173 colour photographs. London: Harvey Miller and Medcalf, 1973. £8.50.
- Stoma Care.* By G. D. OATES, D. M. WALLACE, F. G. ALEXANDER, B. SAUNDERS, P. R. HAWLEY and H. BRENDAN DEVLIN. Queensborough, Kent: Abbott Laboratories. Free on request.
- The Life of Hamilton Bailey.* By S. V. HUMPHRIES. Pp. 72, illustrated. Ravenswood: Beckenham, 1973. £3.00.
- Prolactin: Physiology and clinical significance.* By DAVID F. HORROBIN. Pp. 239, illustrated. Medical and Technical Publishing Co. Lancaster, 1973.
- The E.C.G. Made Easy.* By J. R. HAMPTON. Pp. 68, illustrated. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1973. 80p.

- Basic Surgical Techniques.* By R. M. KIRK. Pp. 168, illustrated. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1973. £1.50.
- Textbook of Paediatrics.* By J. O. FORFAR and GAVIN C. ARNEL. Pp. 2115, illustrated. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1973. £19.50.
- Clinical Cardiac Radiology.* By KEITH JEFFERSON and SIMON REES. Pp. 314, illustrated. London: Butterworths, 1973. £15.00.
- Dental Manifestations of Systemic Disease.* By DAVID H. TRAPNELL and J. E. BOWERMAN. Pp. 175, illustrated. London: Butterworths, 1973. £4.95.
- Ophthalmic Syndromes.* By H. V. NEMA. Pp. 355. London: Butterworths, 1973. £4.95.
- Writing Medical Papers.* By J. CALNAN and A. BARABAS. Pp. 121, illustrated. London: Heinemann, 1973. £1.25.
- The Management of Common Skin Diseases.* By C. P. A. DUPONT. Pp. 86. Henry Kimpton, London, 1973. £1.25.
- The Abdominal Stoma.* By R. G. RICHARDSON. Pp. 56, illustrated. Queensborough, Kent: Abbott Laboratory. Free to doctors and nurses.

Book reviews

Adolescents Grow in Groups. Experiences in Adolescent Group Psychotherapy

By I. H. BERKOVITZ. Pp. 250. New York: Brunner Mazel. London: Butterworths. 1972. £3.80.

After a shaky beginning interest is maintained by the separate authors for each chapter and by the case material presented. The final chapter is provoking but would be more valuable had the editor attempted to draw together the main points from the preceding sections. Two major issues emerge, firstly, that the therapist's own personality, knowledge, training and experience are of prime importance, secondly that different types of groups with varying techniques and aims should be available for clients with their differing needs. Obvious as these conclusions may seem it is a corrective to the current trend towards using untrained therapists.

Those with adolescent group experience in this country will be intrigued by the apparent psychological sophistication of the American teenager, as with the universality of drug-abuse.

The Physiology and Pathophysiology of the Skin

Edited by A. JARRETT. Vol. I, Pp. xvi + 356. Vol. II, Pp. xvi + 466, illustrated. London and New York: Academic Press, 1973. £7.50 (Vol. I). £9.80 (Vol. II).

These books are well produced and illustrated, although the discrepancy in price between Volumes I and II, and some features of the numbering of both text and indices, are puzzling. While in the first volume titles of papers are almost always given, in the second they are withheld; a more uniform policy throughout the first and between the first and second volumes would have been desirable. There are occasional typographical errors, e.g. 'halidixic acid' on page 332 should read 'nalidixic acid' and 'pemphigus foliaceus' rather than 'pemphigus foliaceus' appears on several occasions.

However, such minor criticisms made, the book calls for unstinted praise in its orderly layout (each chapter is preceded by a list of contents), straightforward style, aptness of illustration and sheer wealth of information. The indices are

good. The references, of admirable scope and well up-to-date, are given at the foot of each page, an arrangement which manages to avoid being cumbersome and is easier for the reader than would be the search of long end-of-chapter lists.

In Volume I the Editor himself considers the epidermis; in Volume II Dr Sinclair and Dr Ryan deal with the nerves and blood vessels. Oxford graduates will appreciate and approve the dedication of the second volume to the incomparable Alice Carleton, anatomist and dermatologist.

The aim of the books is to give a dispassionate and up-to-date account of current work and its interpretation, directed towards dermatologists, pathologists and perhaps other scientists. Clinical entities are mentioned briefly but adequately, and treatment noted where its principles can be related to the pathophysiology. Light and electron microscopic findings are correlated with each other, and with results of other techniques.

To dermatologists it will be invaluable. Pathologists will also find it of help. Furthermore, neurologists and vascular surgeons should note its existence because in it they may discover much of interest; so surely may general physicians, on reading, for example, the sections dealing with vasculitis and fibrinolysis, and psychiatrists, the section on psychocutaneous influences on the blood vessels. In short, an important reference book, and one to convince any who may be still in doubt that the study of dermatology is flourishing and very much a part of general medicine. The promised sequel is looked forward to with pleasure.

The Radiology of Joint Diseases

By V. TZONCHEF, K. SEIDEL, JENA M. DIVITROV and K. HERRMANN. Translated by K. Herrmann. Pp. 19 + 353 illustrations. London: Butterworths. 1973. £14.00.

This book contains an interesting and instructive collection of joint radiographs well worth looking at but they are nearly all printed 'black on white', the reverse of normal practice in this country now, and not arranged in any obvious