used as a basis for teaching at Tufts University School of Medicine, an idea which might well deserve emulation in our own medical schools. Certainly the author has selected papers of great intrinsic interest and one can only criticise sins of omission rather than commission. The book can be thoroughly recommended as excellent bedside reading for all pharmacologists and for any historically minded non-specialist. For would-be authors, the style of most of the contributors merits some study.

Recent Advances in the Surgery of Trauma


This worthwhile addition to the Recent Advances series covers a wide range of topics and combines the practical aspects of the treatment of trauma with a healthy amount of reference to trends in research, without forgetting the problems of organisation, prevention and rehabilitation. The editor has drawn on the experience of a large and distinguished group of contributors and the fact that the volume reads so smoothly without a clash of styles is a tribute to the excellence of his editorship.

It is always a difficult task to decide the exact scope of a book of this type, but the aim of concentrating on subject matter not ordinarily dealt with in the standard textbooks is a sensible one and has been brilliantly achieved. Particularly welcome are such masterly chapters as those on immunology and tissue transplantation; on head injuries in childhood which complements that on head injuries in general; on the treatment of ocular injuries which is so often forgotten; and on maxillo-facial injuries, dermabrasion, keloids, vascular injuries and the artificial kidney. The chapter on chest injuries reflects the increasing interest in this subject, whilst that on the effects of thermonuclear attack is a grim reminder of the political background to our everyday life. One small criticism is that there is no chapter on renal, uroteric and bladder injuries to complement the one on urethral injuries.

Each chapter is followed by a useful and up-to-date list of references which facilitates further study, and there is a good index. The illustrations are profuse, clear and helpful, and the general format is pleasing.

This book contains a mass of information not readily available in so convenient a form and can be read with benefit by all who are interested in the treatment of trauma.

The Infected Hand


There has been a widespread realization in recent years of the vast amount of disability and economic loss due to 'minor' injuries and septic conditions of the hands.

These are necessarily so widespread that the vast majority must be dealt with by the student, casualty officer or general practitioner, rather than by anyone with a special interest in the hand.

It is therefore of great value that this little book, based on the experience of the Hand Clinic at University College Hospital, London, has been published by Mr. Bailey. It is essentially the book for those mentioned above.

There is a simple answer for everything, provided in simple terms.

There is much that a more specialized practitioner may disagree with, but these are details only and do not detract from its value to those for whom it is intended.

Modern Trends in Obstetrics 3


There is a new format in this series in that Obstetrics and Gynaecology are published in separate volumes. There is also a new editor due to the death of Kenneth Bowes. Professor Kellar, the new editor, found it no easy task to select his subject matter but he has chosen well both subjects and contributors and is to be congratulated.

The book comprises chapters on each of the following: water and electrolyte balance in pregnancy and the action of diuretics; the management of hypertension in pregnancy; placental function; anaemia in pregnancy; developments in antihypertensive disease of the fetus and newborn; induction of labour; the clinical uses of electronic devices; the vacuum extractor; the theory and application of abdominal decompression; anuria and the artificial kidney; perinatal mortality in the United Kingdom; and observations on maternal mortality.

The editor would not pretend that his contributors had covered in every detail all the subjects but at the end of each chapter there are full references, and each contributor is such an authority on his particular subject that he has weighed all the evidence with due appraisal. In this connection Professor Kellar's knowledge at first hand of what is happening outside the United Kingdom is reflected in contributions from Australia and South Africa.

The subjects are not all written by obstetricians: a consultant in clinical renal physiology writes on anuria, a bacteriologist discusses maternity hospital infection, a morbid anatomist reflects on perinatal mortality, and a Professor of clinical medicine deals with anemia in pregnancy. Thus the book will have an appeal not only to obstetricians, both consultant and in training, but to the much wider field of workers interested in matters obstetrical.

The publishers are to be congratulated on their reproduction. They intend a repagination every two years or so. This will be necessary due to changing emphasis and new discoveries. There is only one criticism of this fine and essential book and that is its price, especially now that the series consists of two volumes, one each on obstetrics and gynaecology.

Biological Interactions in Normal and Neoplastic Growth


The symposium which was held in Detroit in May 1961, was concerned with the discussion of post-tumour relationships. There were 105 contributors, most of whom were workers at American or Canadian centres, though 15 came from Europe, two from India, two from Japan and one from Israel. There is therefore a little justification for calling this an international symposium, but predominantly the book sets out the development of American work on the subject. It is inevitable that such a publication must take time to prepare and we must not