EDITORIAL NOTES

SPECIAL COURSES.

During the month of September the Fellowship of Medicine provides a varied choice of special courses to suit the increasing needs of practitioners for post-graduate medical study. Particulars of these can be obtained from the Secretary of the Fellowship at 1, Wimpole-street, W. 1, who will also supply the list of the remaining special courses for 1926. Taking the courses in order of date:

From Sept. 6th to Oct. 2nd the honorary staff of the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital will provide clinical teaching in the afternoons from 2 o'clock in the out-patient department, as well as give lecture-demonstrations on the more important diseases of the eye. An operative surgery class will be held by arrangement for an additional fee.

Dr. PORTER PHILLIPS, the superintendent, and the medical staff of the Bethlem Royal Hospital will give a series of lecture-demonstrations on Psychological Medicine from Sept. 7th to Oct. 2nd. The demonstrations are held bi-weekly at 11 A.M., so that, if desired, it is possible to undertake other post-graduate study simultaneously. In connexion with the Bethlem Royal Hospital a diploma course continuing for three months is held from the beginning of September. Entrants for the course who pay a composition fee of 15 guineas may, if due preliminary notice is given, attend either Part A or Part B of one course and postpone taking the remaining course until the next session. The fee for one part only is 10 guineas. Tickets for this course are issued by the Fellowship of Medicine which can also supply copies of the prospectus and time-table.

There will be a special course at the Infants Hospital, under the direction of Dr. ERIC PRITCHARD, for medical officers of welfare centres and others. This course occupies the afternoons only and is of a most comprehensive character, and opportunities are afforded to visit the Nursery Training School at the Hampstead Garden Suburb, the V.D. centre at Thavies Inn, Holborn, and the Blind Babies Home at Chorley Wood.

RADIOThERAPY IN RELATION TO GENERAL MEDICINE.

By FRANCIS HERMAN-JOHNSON, M.D. London: Humphry Milford, Oxford University Press. 1926. Pp. 211. 5s. net.

This admirable little book is stuffed full as an egg with good matter. On p. 111 the author hints that he may appear to wander somewhat from his subject; this is true, but we forgive him for his wanderings are very interesting and stimulate our thought. He opens with an excellent account of the physics of radiation and its effect on normal cells. Then there is a discursive chapter on the general nature of disease and the action of remedies. The rest of the book—that is to say, considerably more than half—is clinical. This work is not a text-book for experts; it is an attempt to give the ordinary medical man an account of the objects, the action, the possibilities, and limitations of radiotherapeutics. We think the author has succeeded in his task, and anyone who, not being a specialist, wishes to be aware of how and to what extent radiotherapy will help him is strongly advised to read this book.

Four lecture-demonstrations on treatment by Electrotherapy will be given on successive Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 22nd, at the Royal Free Hospital by Dr. C. B. HealD. Although the course is intended primarily for general practitioners desirous of familiarising themselves with the recent advances in medical electrical treatment, it is possible that it may appeal to many others wishful of becoming familiar with the subject and with the popular sunlight treatment now advocated by so many medical advisers to the community. A new light department is in running order at the hospital.

The honorary staff of the National Orthopaedic Hospital have consented to give a second course this year from Sept. 20th to Oct. 2nd. To those who followed the one in April this will be welcome news, as it is many years since a special course of instruction was available at the hospital. Lecture-demonstrations are arranged throughout the week on the various deformities and disabilities of this particular branch of surgery. The entire clinical practice of the hospital is open to those enrolling for the course, and a visit to Brockley Hill County Hospital is included in the programme, where opportunities for seeing cases of surgical tuberculosis are afforded.

For the general practitioner and others desirous of renewing their acquaintance with modern hospital practice the Westminster Hospital will provide an intensive course from Sept. 26th to Oct. 1st. The sessions are from 10.30 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. each day, and the work provided will include instruction in such subjects as general medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, laryngology, gynaecology, chest and X ray work, &c. A visit will be made to a mental institution connected with the hospital.

It must not be overlooked that the City of London Maternity Hospital provides weekly courses throughout the year in Obstetrics and Child Welfare. The course is limited to four graduates in any one given week and personal application for permission to attend the course must be made to the Secretary of the Fellowship. Practical courses