

Book Reviews : Boekbesprekings

ENVIRONMENT AND CANCER

Environment and Cancer. A collection of papers presented at the 24th Annual Symposium on Fundamental Cancer Research, 1971. Pp. xiii + 475. Illustrated. \$19.00. Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Company. 1972.

The papers are grouped under three headings—'Identification of hazards in the environment'; 'Mechanisms of cancer induction'; and 'Host-dependent factors in environmental carcinogenesis'. References are up-to-date, diagrams well reproduced and the discussions well edited. Papers vary in quality and clarity, some being highly specific and detailed, while others are much more general.

Higginson presents an epidemiological approach with special reference to correlation studies and monitoring systems. He estimates that 80% of tumours are conditioned by the environment and thus are theoretically preventable.

The environmental factors are the most obviously controllable links in the chain of malignant transformation and for this reason the symposium directed its attention to research on the relationship between the environment and cancer.

S.Z.

SPINAL INJURIES

Injuries of the Spinal Cord. The management of paraplegia and tetraplegia. By N. G. Sutton, M.B., Ch.M., D.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.S.C. Ed., F.R.A.C.S. Pp. viii + 185. Illustrated. R11,00. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1973.

This book is an excellent primer for the uninitiated in spinal injury. It is of great value to the young physiotherapist, occupational therapist or even for that matter the young doctor who is starting out to treat his first paraplegic patient. The controversies in this subject are stated and glossed over, and the final solutions in the opinion of the author are not given. He rather gives the opinions of many people and leaves it for the reader to decide for himself. As such, I would recommend it for any persons who have a paraplegic patient to treat or are starting in a post in a paraplegic unit. Later, however, one would have to go into the subject in greater detail.

R.L.