

Book Reviews : Boekbesprekings

CARDIAC PACING

Principles and Techniques of Cardiac Pacing. By S. Furman, M.D. and D. J. W. Escher, M.D. Pp. x + 269. Illustrated. \$12.50 New York: Harper & Row. 1970.

This book deals with all aspects of electrical pacing necessary to an understanding of the principles and techniques involved. It is well written, lucid, adequately referenced, with clear diagrams and tables and is strongly recommended for persons involved in caring for patients with pacemakers and as a source of information of all aspects of cardiac pacing. The experience of the authors is restricted mainly to American units and one or two manufactured outside the USA; an attempt is not made to review all aspects of all pacemaker units ever marketed, but rather to discuss some of the most commonly used, reliable units in greater detail.

This book is an excellent acquisition for any interested cardiologist and all scientific libraries.

B.M.K.

POPULATION EXPLOSION

Sex and the Population Crisis. An endocrinologist's view of the 20th century. By J. A. Loraine, D.Sc., M.B., Ph.D., F.R.C.P. (Edin.) Pp. xiii + 200. £1.50. London: William Heinemann Medical Books. 1970.

Dr Loraine is Director of the Clinical Endocrinology Unit of the Medical Research Council in Edinburgh. His name must be added to the growing list of active consultants to whom the population explosion presents a peril which they cannot ignore.

It is difficult to define the reader to whom Dr Loraine has directed his book. Doctors may feel that it is for the lay public, whilst only a knowledgeable layman will understand all the endocrinology. Steroidal contraception, present and future, is however, especially clearly explained, and an interesting chapter is that on substances stimulating the ovary. Every aspect of the population crisis, and methods to combat it, are most skilfully discussed and well documented.

E.H.

MONONUCLEAR PHAGOCYTES

Mononuclear Phagocytes. Ed. by R. van Furth. Pp. xv + 654. Illustrated. £6.50. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1970.

In this volume the proceedings of the International Conference of Mononuclear Phagocytes, held in Leyden in September 1969, are recorded. It is obvious that the contributors to the Conference included a very impressive array of the foremost workers in cellular immunity from all over the world. The collected papers deal with innumerable facets of monocyte function in inflammatory and immune processes. Indeed, within this one volume there is condensed probably all the most recent information in this rapidly expanding field of interest. As such it is an excellent reference book which should have a wide appeal.

This meeting was an historical occasion as it was agreed there that the time-honoured term 'reticulo-endothelial system', as coined by Aschoff (1924), should be replaced by the concept of the 'mononuclear phagocyte system'.

C.J.U.