

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

CLINICAL NEUROSURGERY

Clinical Neurosurgery, Vol. 9. Proceedings of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, New York, 1961. Ed. by W. H. Mosberg, jnr., M.D. Pp. xix + 314. Illustrated. R9.60. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co.; and London: Baillière Tindall & Cox Ltd. 1963.

Prof. Eduard Busch of Copenhagen, to whom this book is dedicated, discusses brain stem contusions and makes suggestions regarding the future development of neurosurgical departments which clearly indicate that the management of head injuries needs to be taken over by neurosurgeons.

The other papers present a comprehensive discussion by authorities on all aspects of cerebral vascular disease. In particular a number of articles on the surgical management of intracranial aneurysms provide information essential to all neurosurgeons.

P.C.K.

INNERVATION OF BLOOD VESSELS

The Innervation of Blood Vessels. By T. A. Grigor'eva. Pp. xiii + 442. Illustrated. R6.30. Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1962.

This book, which has been translated from Russian into excellent English, is devoted to very detailed descriptions of previous works, mainly by Russian authors, on the innervation of blood vessels. The author's recent work is described in detail, but no mention is made of the source of the material

used—from the description it cannot possibly be man in most instances. Excellent reproductions of microphotography are included, plus beautiful line-drawing interpretations of these.

It is not easy to read and, in my opinion, is spoilt by too much repetition.

W.M.R.

CARDIOVASCULAR AND RENAL DISEASE

The Year Book of Cardiovascular and Renal Diseases. (1962-1963 Year Book Series.) Ed. by W. P. Harvey, M.D. *et al.* Pp. 543. Illustrated. \$10.00. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1963.

This volume gives an up-to-date review of the important articles which have been published in this branch of medicine. The list of editors includes well-known names in the specialty and most articles have an editorial comment at the end of the review. This prevents what might have been a 'lack-lustre' book of reviewed articles, and the comments are in themselves highly worth reading. For example, at the end of one review of the treatment of hypertension with special reference to guanethidine the editor states—and this puts the subject in perspective—'that it is well to be reminded that we do not yet have the ideal hypertensive drugs. However, we certainly do have agents that are better than the sedatives for most hypertensive patients.' It is comments such as these that seem to help one in estimating and assessing articles.

This volume is certainly well worth possessing and is cheap at the price.

M.N.