

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

EXAMINATION OF BLOOD SMEARS

The Peripheral Blood Film. By T. A. Harper, M.B., B.S. (Madras), M.C. Path. Pp. ix + 134. Illustrated. R2.80. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1968.

This pocket handbook is intended for guidance in the routine examination for bloodsmears. The first half employs a simple descriptive nomenclature to classify bloodsmears without any attempt to list minor variations or explain the pathogenesis of abnormal features, while the second half lists the clinical conditions associated with each type of smear, indicating also what additional diagnostic procedures may be necessary. There is an appendix on staining methods and the book is copiously illustrated with photomicrographs in black and white, magnifications, however, being omitted.

M.L.N.

URINARY TRACT INFECTION IN CHILDREN

Urinary Tract Infection in Childhood and its Relevance to Disease in Adult Life. By V. Smallpiece, M.A. (Oxon), M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.P. Pp. viii + 171. £1.16.0. London: William Heinemann. 1968.

This monograph is essentially an extensive review of the English literature, although other sources are also included. There is much interesting and instructive information, such as interrelated congenital abnormalities, drug dosage with particular reference to premature and neonatal infants, and the need for prolonged treatment of chronic urinary infection

(up to 2 years) as a routine. The surgical aspects are dealt with briefly.

Much value would have been added had the author included a summary of her own views at the end of each chapter.

This monograph should find a place in every medical library. S.S.

CLINICAL ANAESTHESIA

Clinical Care (Clinical Anaesthesia Series). Ed. by W. H. L. Dornette, M.D. Pp. xiii + 153. £2.7.0. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1967.

Although entitled *Clinical Care*, there is little in this book which deals with the day-to-day practical clinical management of the patient in anaesthesia. One soon finds, however, that this is no cause for disappointment in the book, for it contains an unusual and valuable collection of articles on subjects ranging from a debate on the anaesthesia manpower shortage and an evaluation of mortality statistics to a simplification of the technicalities surrounding electrical hazards in the operating theatre.

The orientation of this book is—not unexpectedly—very definitely American, and this detracts from its value to the South African anaesthetist in so far as the technical and legal standards quoted do not apply in this country. This is nevertheless a most valuable and thought-provoking book which could well be recommended to hospital administrators as well as anaesthetists.

A.B.B.