

practitioner, the hospital out-patient department, and the district nurse, is emphasized. There is a good chapter contributed by Dr. Chard on eye conditions met with at work; this deals with the vexed question of the extent of treatment to be carried out by the nurse, and concludes with a useful list of "Do's and Dont's" which even those with long experience of industry will find helpful. It will be seen that the book provides much that is useful, but the newcomer may find it difficult to digest much of the information and to relate it to her own practical problems, while the old hand will ask for more than the superficial treatment given to some important subjects. It is unavoidable that in a book of this size some subjects should be sketchily dealt with, but it is unfortunate that this criticism should apply where the nurse is in special need of guidance and where it is difficult for her to find information conveniently to hand. For instance, rehabilitation is dealt with in two short paragraphs in a chapter headed "Co-ordination of Health and Welfare Services". This is a useful chapter, giving as it does brief accounts of numerous bodies with whose work the industrial nurse should be familiar, but it is hardly here, placed side by side with details of the Association of Industrial Medical Officers and the Marriage Guidance Council, that one would expect to find all the information on such important subjects as rehabilitation and health education.

The chapter on treatment will meet with criticism, but so would any attempt to give in a few pages methods of treatment for so great a variety of conditions.

There are other details which call for criticism, but despite minor faults this book contains a great deal of value to the doctor and nurse working in industry, and it should certainly find a place on their bookshelves.

R. L.

**Tuberculosis in the Commonwealth.** National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. 1949. Pp. 411. Price 15s.

This gives a verbatim account of the Second Commonwealth and Empire Health and Tuberculosis Conference which was held in London from July 5 to 8, 1949, under the auspices of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, which is an association composed both of medical and lay members, so that a considerable portion of the book is concerned with the administrative and lay aspects of tuberculosis. It is none the less important on this account since such subjects as "Psychological and Social Re-adaptation of Chronic Disease in Industry" are of enormous importance in this disease, which is the commonest cause of both disability and death in the 20-40 age group of the population.

The most important theme which runs through this book is the lack of beds for treatment at the present time. The recent advances made in therapy, which are also discussed, have increased the need for beds since they have brought so many more cases within the range of treatment. Since there are not the beds available, there is a tendency to develop domiciliary treatment and one cannot do better than quote Dr. Scadding's comments on the schemes.

"I regard the schemes of domiciliary collapse therapy as stop-gap palliatives provided by heroic efforts on the part of medical and ancillary staffs of tuberculosis clinics to mitigate the difficulties imposed on their work by the present shortage of beds. I think that the apparent success of these schemes and our admiration for those who are carrying out the difficult work they entail, should not be allowed to engender complacency about the deplorable shortage of beds for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis."

K. M. A. P.



## Tuberculosis in the Commonwealth

K. M. A. P.

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