

—how to start and when to stop—and explains the special psychological atmosphere of general practice.

Section 3 presents conclusions. The result of five years' research is a number of problems, awkward and uncomfortable. Advice by the doctor is usually a well intended shot in the dark, nearly always futile, as is reassurance.

General practice is seriously ill with a benign disease and if the right therapy is applied the prognosis is good. The present symptoms of malaise in general practice are of the doctors' own making, and Dr. Balint believes that he has presented the symptoms and diagnosis of this malady and urges doctors to try to effect a radical cure.

An appendix gives hints to psychiatrists who are taking general practitioners in refresher courses on the selection of general practitioners for these courses and follow up details of the patients discussed in the seminars at the Tavistock Clinic.

It is disappointing that the book raises more problems than it answers and gives little advice. It certainly does not give short cuts or simple rules to lessen the burden of the 'neurotic' patient in general practice.

Not everyone will accept Balint's teaching, and it will cause antagonism among many. Some will still believe in shutting the door firmly on the neurotic skeleton in the cupboard as being the most economical way of dealing with this problem.

The book should be compulsory reading for all students, specialists, and general practitioners.

H. W. ASHWORTH

## NOTICES

### V Asian Conference on Occupational Health

The Vth Asian Conference on Occupational Health will be held in Bombay (India) in November 1968. The Conference will be attended by experts on various aspects of occupational health from many parts of the world.

Scientific discussions will be held on various subjects pertaining to occupational health, such as Safety in Industry, Industrial Hygiene, and Ergonomics.

For further information please write to Dr. J. C. Kothari, Secretary-General, P.B. No. 355, Bombay, India.

### The British Occupational Hygiene Society

A Third International Symposium on Inhaled Particles is to be held in September 1970 in the United Kingdom (provisionally at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London). It is a sequel to the earlier symposia held at Oxford in 1960 and at Cambridge in 1965.

This conference, whilst maintaining the previous general theme of the advances in knowledge of the mechanisms governing the entry of foreign material into the lungs and the response of the lungs to inhaled matter, will concentrate on the application of this basic knowledge to the particular problems of coal-workers' and industrial mixed dust pneumoconiosis.

Contributions to the Symposium will be welcome from all countries. They should in general describe original research but some review papers will be accepted. Contributions will be subject to scrutiny by the Society's Honorary Editor with the assistance of an advisory panel.

The Symposium is expected to last 4/5 days; simultaneous translation will be provided in English, French, and German (and other languages, depending on requirements). The proceedings will subsequently be published in book form, full details of which will be announced later.

Persons wishing to receive further details and/or to present contributions should write to the Secretary of the Organizing Committee: Dr. J. S. McLintock, Medical Service, National Coal Board, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

### Second Scottish Symposium on Colour

Organized by the Colour Group (Scottish Section) and the Visual Laboratory of the Department of Psychology, Edinburgh University, the Symposium will be held in the David Hume Tower, Edinburgh University, George Square, Edinburgh, on Thursday and Friday, 5 and 6 September, 1968. Further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, R. S. Sinclair, Paisley College of Technology, Paisley, Scotland.

## CORRECTIONS

In the paper 'The Diagnosis of Industrial Lead Poisoning' by Gibson, Mackenzie, and Goldberg (*Brit. J. industr. Med.*, 1968, **25**, 40-51) reference was made in Table III on p. 47 to the findings of Cramér and Selander on the correlation between urinary ALA and PBG and clinical manifestations. This was incorrect, for in the paper by Cramér and Selander which was quoted there were no data on the urinary excretion of PBG.

In the paper 'Assessing the Heat Stress and Establishing the Limits for Work in a Hot Mine' by Wyndham, Allan, Bredell, and Andrew (*Brit. J. Industr. Med.*, 1967, **24**, 255-271), line 3 on p. 264 should read "This statement means that the same effect on P<sub>4</sub>SR values is seen from a 10°F. change in D.B. and a 30°F. change in G.T."