a subtle comment on the amalgam of assumptions and guesswork which she strives to expose that she never gives us very clearly the criteria by which we can judge this real rehabilitation. The vocational criterion—return to gainful employment—she rejects as too narrow.

Not all readers will accept that we know as little about the rehabilitation of the disabled as Constantina Safilios-Rothschild insists, nor will they want to postpone change and experiment until they have the answer to even a fraction of the research questions she poses. Nevertheless they will gain insight from reading what she has to say.

JUNE STEVENSON

Snakes and Ladders. Medical and Social Aspects of Modern Management. By Ivor Felstein. (Pp. 197; £2.10) London: Constable. 1971.

This book is concerned with medical and social aspects of modern industrial management. Its subject matter ranges from the relationship between the individual and his environment to sickness absence, to the application of behavioural science to problems of management, and to a plea for a National Occupational Health Service.

In none of these spheres are the problems explored in real depth, and consequently this slim volume is unlikely to be of value to the professional manager or to the experienced industrial medical officer. On the other hand, the superficial approach enables a broad spectrum of problems to be discussed, and either doctor or layman unfamiliar with industry or commerce will find it interesting reading.

Not everyone will agree with all the views that are expressed. Dr. Felstein's account of the health problems of private secretaries is likely to cause many doctors—not to mention private secretaries—to raise their eyebrows. Many industrial medical officers might consider that his suggestions concerning the appraisal of the degree of anxiety experienced by employees exposed to mental or emotional stress are unrealistic in the factory. These suggestions involve electromyography, measurement of salivation rate, measurement of skin electrical conductance, or, in the smaller organization, recording of blood-pressure levels and changes in the size of the pupils of the eyes.

Dr. Felstein's clear literary style and his avoidance of medical and management jargon make the book easy to read.

ALEXANDER MUNN

Emergencies in Medical Practice, edited by C. Allan Birch. (Pp. xiv + 782; 99 figs. £6.00) Edinburgh and London: Churchill Livingstone. 1971.

This is the 9th edition of a book which has stood many of us in good stead since 1948. It includes work by several new contributors. The book is extremely concise, thus making any comprehensive summary impossible. Suffice it to say that almost every aspect of emergencies likely to be met with in all branches of medical practice is adequately covered, ranging from the most complicated of cardiac emergencies to the removal of chewing gum

from the eyelashes! There are many clear diagrams and tables which enable one to locate important points speedily and accurately, and the plates add considerably to the interest and value. Rarely, indeed, is it that a book intended primarily to be factual is at the same time so easily readable.

The various chapters cover the emergencies likely to be encountered in the various fields of medical practice and an adequate index enables one to trace any particular situation speedily. References to original work are kept to a minimum, but there are useful suggestions for further reading at the end of many chapters and there is no hesitation in referring to proprietary products by name when this seems desirable in the interests of clarity.

The appendices are likewise of considerable value and it is here that new editions of such a book are necessary at fairly frequent intervals. There are addresses of large numbers of institutions one may need to contact in emergencies as for the supply of sera or certain emergency drugs and pathological investigations; regional respiratory units, centres for the treatment of haemophilia, renal dialysis units and anthrax treatment units, Samaritans and unofficial emergency services and international foundations are also included. There are useful chapters on medico-legal and other non-clinical emergencies and, very necessary but often omitted, information on the problems associated with death.

It is rarely that one is able to say without hesitation that this is a book which should be in the hands of all medical practitioners. It will be of particular interest to casualty officers, industrial medical advisers, and general practitioners but there must be none who will not be well served in an emergency by this excellent and well-produced volume.

M. A. COOKE

Textiles for Comfort. Third Shirley International Seminar. (Pp. 428; £5 to members, £7 to non-members.) Published by the Cotton, Silk and Man-made Fibres Research Association, Shirley Institute, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 8RX. 1971.

This collection of 25 papers presented at the 3rd Shirley International Seminar will undoubtedly be of wide utility. It is, however, not easy to use the volume as, regrettably, it is issued without a list of contents. Because of its size it is not possible here to do more than indicate in outline the scope of the papers published.

It is, of course, technically a complex operation to specify those properties of clothing assemblies which will allow the wearer to work comfortably under particular climatic conditions and activity. At least three approaches need to be employed:

First, a knowledge of the effects of clothing on physiological and psychophysiological responses is required. To be more specific, it is necessary to stipulate the limiting thermal and working conditions under which the rate of heat loss, as well as of moisture loss, will be maintained at skin and core temperatures compatible with comfort.

Secondly, it is necessary to relate physiological requirements to the design and fit of the clothing. This is usually an empirical operation requiring investigation under realistic or simulated conditions.