

REVIEW

Leprosy, by J. A. DOULL. Tice's Practice of Medicine 4, 1962, 57 presents a valuable review of modern knowledge and modern thought on leprosy. There are 10 illustrations and 39 references.

The author defines leprosy sensibly as a 'chronic infectious disease of man caused by the leprosy bacillus *Mycobacterium leprae*, affecting chiefly the skin, mucous membranes of the upper respiratory tract, and certain peripheral nerves'. He goes on to give a short but accurate account of what is known of the past history of the disease in the world, and interesting data on its modern prevalence. He then discusses in a balanced manner the etiology, pathology, classification, clinical features, diagnosis and differential diagnosis, treatment by older forms of therapy and the newer forms, which now include prevention of complications and of sequelae by physiotherapy and reconstructive and plastic surgery, and the prevention and treatment of lepra reactions. Prognosis and control are also discussed. In the comparatively short space of 20 pages this article would lay the foundation for any serious reader for an understanding of modern leprosy.