

## Book Reviews

**Leprosy—Diagnosis and Management** by Harry L. Arnold and Paul Fasal, 93 pp. 2nd edition. 1973. Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A. Price \$14.75 (U.S.).

Much aqueous carbol fuchsin has flowed over many microscope slides in the 20 years since the first edition of this book appeared under the title, *Modern Concepts of Leprosy*. The new knowledge—of contagiousness, immunology, bactericidal activity and domiciliary treatment—is reflected throughout the book, in the stance adopted, the clinical descriptions given, and the advice furnished on problems of diagnosis and management.

Written for the non-specialist physician who needs more than a medical student's nodding acquaintance with the barest rudiments of leprosy, the present book—with its excellent black-and-white and good colour illustration—should be a helpful addition to his library of brief handbooks that are taken down from the shelf from time to time and actually handled.

**Auxiliaries in Health Care—Programmes in Developing Countries**, by N. R. E. Fendall. 196 pp. and index. 1972. Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore and London. Price £4.30.

Professor Fendall is an enthusiast. He is more: he is a convinced, and convincing enthusiast. He writes as a practical man who sees that the "medicine of poverty" demands a radical rethinking of our Western ways if any impact at all is to be made on the mass of ill-health and morbidity in the developing countries. The only practicable method of combating the disease and malnutrition, the parasitic and infectious endemics, is to deploy trained and supervised auxiliary staff.

The value of this book to practising leprosy field-workers lies in its useful discussions on selection, training, and utilization of the health auxiliary. For us, the great need will be either to inculcate concern for leprosy in the polycompetent auxiliaries, or to train the leprosy paramedical worker so that he can play a larger rôle in the promotion of community health.

**Speaking at Medical Meetings**, by James Calnan and Andras Barabas, 111 pp. and index. 1972. William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., London. Price £1.25.

This unpretentious little book should be read and pondered and heeded by every reader of *Leprosy Review* who is ever called upon to stand up in public and share some of his knowledge or experiences with colleagues. It is devastatingly candid, even scathing in places. We "see ourselves as other see us"—perhaps for the first time—as we splutter and mumble inaudibly, fumble over illegible transparencies, or commit any of the thousand sins far too common among speakers at medical meetings. It is also amusingly written, doubtless on the principle that truth rammed home in humour tends to stick.

There are chapters on demonstrating a patient, the short scientific communication, the 50-minute lecture, and the symposium. Then come some enlightening and illuminating sections on the techniques, the mechanics, of good speaking—how to speak well and how to use visual aids effectively.

The concluding sentence of the foreword runs like this: "If its precepts are followed, all medical meetings will become enjoyable and educational occasions". Leprosy workers, please note. *Verb. sap.*

*S. G. Browne*