

REVIEW

THE MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE POISONING

By Gordon Cumming

Cassell London — 10s. 6d.

Toxicology books are usually unreadable because of the profuse tabulations of undigestible facts. Symptomatology, lethal doses, antidotes, and details of chemistry, whilst very valuable as sources of information, make very dull reading, and at best, in spite of anecdotes and case histories, most of them are used only as references.

This is a toxicology book with a difference. Dr. Cumming intends that it is to provide a guide to the management of cases of poisoning for casualty officers and general practitioners, and as such, he has succeeded in producing a readable and yet informative book which should appeal to the busy doctor who has little time to pore over abstruse theories and dull figures.

The effects of common poisons like barbiturates and carbon monoxide are adequately discussed, and the principles of management admirably set forth. The injunction is clear and the reasoning precise. It may be difficult to agree that in spite of the dangers of perforation, a soft tube may be passed into the stomach in cases of corrosive alkali poisoning, and also that gastric lavage should be no more than twice, and confined to a litre of fluid each time. Nevertheless, the general principles are sound, and the style lucid. Casualty officers and practitioners should find this book a welcome addition to their libraries.

A. L. Gwee

ASSOCIATION NOTES

THE NUTRITION SOCIETY

(Scottish Group)

The 144th meeting of the Nutrition Society (62nd of the Scottish Group) will be held on Saturday, September 30th, 1961 in the Large Lecture Hall, College of Agriculture, University of Edinburgh. It will take the form of a symposium on:

NUTRITION AND POULTRY

Chairman: Professor S. J. Watson, C.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.R.S.E. (Professor of Agriculture, University of Edinburgh).

W. P. Blount, T.D., F.R.C.V.S., Ph.D., F.P.H., F.R.S.E. "The bird as an experimental animal".

M. E. Coates, Ph.D., F.P.C., Ph.C. "Advances in nutritional knowledge through studies with birds".

Professor S. Lepkovsky "The hypothalamus and appetite".

J. H. Taylor, Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S. "Antibiotics and other growth-promoting substances".

Professor M. F. M. Meiklejohn, M.A. "Birds as food for the human".