

Book Reviews

conditions were often primitive. Dr. Ridgway Trimble put stress on the fact that 'the mortality and morbidity of combat casualties can be reduced to a minimum only when mature, highly trained surgeons are available in forward areas of combat'.

This volume contains many good things but is much too long. It can only be a reference book, but from it might be distilled a very much shorter and readable account that would be permanently useful.

There are 365 illustrations, but many of them are not of good quality.

ZACHARY COPE

St. Mary's Hospitals Manchester 1790-1963, by J. H. YOUNG, Edinburgh and London, E. and S. Livingstone, 1964, pp. viii + 124, 31 pl., 30s.

The author deals with his subject from the point of view of bricks and mortar and the minute books of the Board of Management. He has made a mighty good job of it. The doctors merely flit through the pages, though Daniel Dougal, one of the best of them all, is sadly missing. There are no biographical notes and except in the last chapter the author does not take us into the operating theatre or on a ward round. Child-bed fever rarely comes into the story except for a midwife who in 1830 lost sixteen cases out of thirty deliveries at a time when the remaining midwives delivered three hundred and fifty without a single case of infection. The background is most interesting. Starting as a breakaway from the local Infirmary the hospital soon went into action. Its midwives were paid three shillings a case. They were forbidden to accept any fee or gratuity from any patient upon pain of expulsion. Financially the hospital barely existed for very many years and when in 1847 there was a disastrous fire the bill was as follows:

34 firemen at 3s.	.	.	.	.	.	£5	2	0
4 firemen at 4s. 6d.	.	.	.	.	.			18 0
11 firemen at 6s.	.	.	.	.	.			3 6 0
20 assistant firemen at 3s.	.	.	.	.	.			3 0 0
109 assistant firemen at 1s. 6d.	.	.	.	.	.			8 3 6
4 horses at 3s.	.	.	.	.	.			12 0
Use of Engines	.	.	.	.	.			10 0 0
							£31	1	6

A note was added to the effect that a youth, William Singleton, had his arm broken while working one of the machines—for which he was allowed 18s. as compensation. The story is full of difficulties and quarrels, but almost always there was progress in the right direction and a large new maternity block is due to be built this year. The last chapter describes the work of Charles Clay the father of ovariectomy in Europe, C. J. Cullingworth's pioneer operations on inflamed Fallopian tubes, and the classical Manchester operation for prolapse devised by Donald and improved by Fothergill.

W. BROCKBANK

James Douglas of the Pouch and His Pupil William Hunter, by K. BRYN THOMAS, London, Pitman Medical Publishing Co., 1964, pp. 229 + xvii, illus., 35s.

Dr. Bryn Thomas's book is a notable landmark in medical biography. Hitherto, the details of James Douglas's life have been scanty. Munk, in *Munk's Roll* (vol. II, p. 77),