DENTAL AND ORAL X-RAY DIAGNOSIS. By A. C. W. Hutchinson, D.D.S., M.D.S., F.D.S., F.R.S.E., Professor of Dental Surgery, University of Edinburgh. Foreword by Sir Sydney Smith, C.B.E., F.R.C.P. (Pp. xii + 524; figs. 946. 75s.) Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd., 1954.

In Dental and Oral X-ray Diagnosis Professor Hutchinson has not simply compiled an atlas of dental radiographs, but has given us a concise and comprehensive textbook covering most, if not all, aspects of dental disease. Starting with chapters on dental development, normal dental anatomy, and congenital and developmental anomalies of structure, the author proceeds to deal with injuries to teeth, infection in its many stages of progression in dental and oral tissues, degenerative dental changes, diseases of maxillary sinuses, of the temporo-mandibular joints and of the salivary glands. Systemic diseases, in so far as they may involve jaws and teeth, are also fully discussed. These chapters cover endocrine and nutritional disturbances and the wide range of osteodystrophies, not infrequently diagnosed in the first instance during dental examination.

The last six chapters, almost a third of the entire volume, are given to a full study of odontomes, cysts, and tumours; an important subject which, in the writer's view, has been treated most satisfactorily. Classifications of odontomes, cysts, and tumours are often difficult and confusing. The author's method of dealing with them as cysts (including odontogenic cysts), odontomes (including the epithelial or cystic odontomes), and finally the tumours, is, while not without minor difficulties, a satisfactory and straightforward classification.

Throughout radiographs are of a high standard, and this feature makes the book valuable and attractive to both dental surgeon and radiologist. In addition to the numerous well-chosen radiographs, line-drawings and photographs are used, where necessary, with useful results.

This book fills a great need not only of dental surgeons and radiologists, but also of dental and radiological students. The writer knows of no other published in Great Britain which gives such a useful correlation of pathological, clinical, and radiological changes in dental and oral disease.

D. P.

AIDS TO MEDICAL TREATMENT. By T. H. Crozier, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.P., and Seven Contributors. Third Edition. (Pp. viii + 536. 12s. 6d.) London: Ballière, Tindall & Cox, 1954.

It is too rarely that a book appears from our own medical school, and for that reason, as well as for its own merits, we welcome Dr. Howard Crozier's new edition of Aids to Medical Treatment. Dr. Crozier has the assistance in a number of specialised fields of other members of the Belfast Medical School. Doctors Evan Fletcher, Dorothy Gardner, and Reginald Hall deal with Tropical Medicine, Psychiatric Medicine, and Skin Diseases respectively. A short chapter on nursing and a very full and clear section on diets complete the book.

It is easy in any book of this kind to find small matters of detail which can be criticised, but one is rather impressed with the wide and practical treatment of the subject. There is a welcome absence of old, out-dated measures, so easily and so often retained in books on treatment. First comes a chapter on sulphonamides and antibiotics (the whole range up to Achromycin, the most recent). This is one of the best sections in the book. Then the usual groupings and systems of diseases are taken in succession. The reader will turn with interest to see how the newer and more controversial subjects are treated. He will not be disappointed. The section on hypertension, for example, gives a balanced view of the present position. That on coronory occlusion is equally rewarding. It is a pity that the psychoneuroses are dealt with so briefly. They form so large a part of medicine, and especially of general practice, that a page is scant measure to devote to them. Nevertheless, nearly always a good balance is struck, and this little book is excellent value, and can be confidently recommended to the general practitioner and (dare we say it?) to the specialist as well.

J. C. C. C.