

Surgeon or Resident in a Special Hospital or a Special Department of a General Hospital. The posts of House Surgeon in an Orthopaedic Department and House Physician in a Neurology Department would be of advantage.
Or Laboratory Posts in Sciences basic to Medicine.

For 12 months and preferably 2 years

General Clinical Medicine at Registrar or equivalent level.

For 4 years (occasionally less, usually more)

At Registrar (or equivalent) level in the specialty with at least 2 years as Senior Registrar (or equivalent appointment) in Rheumatology or in a post combining General Medicine with Rheumatology.

C. All appointments, after a certain date to be agreed, would be in approved hospitals. In general all

“University Hospitals” would be approved, and arrangements would be made for granting approval to other hospitals and institutions. For many consultant posts rotation between “University” and other hospitals at some stage during the training years is of advantage.

D. A year can with advantage be spent in research or other special experience at home or abroad at some stage, and no strict sequence of posts need be observed before appointment to a Senior Registrarship or equivalent post. Research may be pursued contemporaneously with registrar experience. Preferably a Research Fellowship should be obtained for a period of 1 or 2 years; in this case 1 year may be deducted from the period of Senior Registrarship.

E. Time spent in General Practice or working overseas or in the medical branch of one of the Services may be recognized as making up part of the training.

BOOK REVIEWS

Beiträge zur Rheumatologie. Sonderheft. Edited by HANS TICHY. 1963. Pp. 104. VEB Verlag Volk und Gesundheit, Berlin. (D.M.15.)

This is a survey of world literature on serology in rheumatology for the year 1960-61, published as a separate volume of the *Beiträge*. Its date of publication is itself an indication of the pace at which research is continuing, for it has taken the indefatigable Prof. Tichy two years to collect, collate, and compress the international output of 12 months into some hundred pages. The first half covers the various streptococcal reactions, the international antistreptolysin standard formulated by W.H.O. and, in the case of Europe, controlled by the central laboratory in Copenhagen, the non-specific rises in titre and their detection by the albumin method evolved at the Pasteur Institute, the clinical applications, and much else besides. For example, the interest of rheumatologists has always centred in the Group-A haemolytic streptococcus and Group B (*Streptococcus agalactiae*) has been regarded as non-pathogenic to man; however, the work of Nanna Svartz on Group B and its possible connexion with rheumatoid arthritis may yet prove to be of the greatest importance.

The second half of the book deals with the various agglutination reactions (Latex, Waaler-Rose, etc.), their relationship to one another, the results obtained in a number of “collagen” diseases, and the use of these reactions in diagnosing “certain”, “probable”, and “possible” rheumatoid arthritis.

The quality of print and paper is not as good as that of the serial volumes of the *Beiträge* but is adequate for the purpose—and so is the list of references with its 208 names. Though Prof. Tichy deplores the small contri-

bution made by German-speaking workers it is only fair to add that his own efforts have, in large measure, compensated for this lack of activity. DAVID PREISKEL.

Textbook of the Rheumatic Diseases. Edited by W. S. C. COPEMAN. 3rd ed., 1964. Livingstone, Edinburgh. (£6 10s.).

A third edition of this well-known “Textbook of the Rheumatic Diseases” is of itself sufficient indication of its value. The book may be said to represent the views of British workers in the field of rheumatology and all aspects of the subject are discussed. In a book covering so much ground and with multiple authors there is bound to be a certain amount of unevenness in presentation and it must be extremely difficult for the editor to decide how much space to allot to the different subjects. Some of the chapters are brilliantly written and one would find it difficult to discover a more concise account of the disorder in any existing review or textbook. The chapter on Rheumatoid Arthritis might be taken as an excellent example; any student or practitioner who reads it cannot fail to have a sound understanding of the natural history of this condition. The majority of the chapters are up to date and contain references to the latest work. This is particularly helpful in the chapter on the Anatomy and Physiology of Joints, but by contrast one is surprised that the chapter on Pain includes only one reference dated later than 1948. The book is a must for all libraries and should be on the shelf of all general physicians, because they will find it very difficult, within such a reasonable compass, to obtain so much valuable information clearly presented and with excellent references and cross-references. R. E. TUNBRIDGE.