Rheumatism. A series of Broadcast talks given by "a doctor". With a foreword by Lord Horder. 1950. Pp. 47. Published by the Empire Rheumatism Council. 1s.

This pamphlet, containing talks on the rheumatic diseases, for which facilities were granted by the B.B.C., has created wide interest and has already gone into several editions. The chief forms of rheumatism are clearly described in language which can be readily understood by the layman and in a style which is graphic and interesting. The main symptoms and characters of rheumatic fever, fibrositis, sciatica, neuritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteo-arthritis, spondylitis, and gout are each dealt with in turn and there is a final chapter on the latest discoveries which have aroused such wide interest and hope for the better treatment of rheumatoid arthritis as well as of other conditions. So far as they are known the causes of rheumatic disease are summarized. Sound advice is given on things which should be avoided, the most suitable diet, the need for rest in bed in the treatment of very many cases of rheumatoid arthritis, the serious effects of neglecting rheumatic fever in even its mildest forms, and the effects of physical overstrain. Sufferers from any form of rheumatism cannot fail to read this brochure with interest and to benefit from the information it supplies.

Annotated Bibliography of Cortisone, ACTH and Related Hormonal Substances. Published quarterly by the Cortisone Committee of the Empire Rheumatism Council. Last Quarter, 1950. 5s.

This publication deals with the literature of the subject, very extensive though of unequal value, which has appeared in English-language journals up to August, 1950. Fairly full abstracts of the more important papers are given and those of less value receive brief notice. Those who wish to keep abreast of research work into the physiological and pharmacological action of these substances and their possible therapeutic use in many morbid conditions, a difficult task in such an extensive and expanding field, will find this quarterly very useful in that it indicates which of the published papers are worthy of closer study, and gives some idea of their general scope.

It is intended to publish further instalments at quarterly intervals, they may be obtained from the General Secretary, Empire Rheumatism Council, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

BRITISH RHEUMATIC ASSOCIATION

We have received a copy of the August issue of the B.R.A. Review, the new quarterly journal of the British Rheumatic Association. This publication is well produced and contains much useful information which will be read with interest and profit by the layman and probably also by general practitioners.