
So many attempts have been made to present modern psychiatry to an arid public that a newcomer must write exceptionally well and control his subject matter with exceptional mastery if he is to justify his entry into this over-populated territory. Dr. Stafford-Clark meets these requirements. His book is a highly readable, illuminating, and sound presentation of psychiatry, free from jargon, dogmatism, or pretension. On controversial subjects, such as psychoanalysis, he is outspoken but fair; on the wider implications of psychiatry, as he sees them, he expresses a sincere personal point of view and on the present limitations of this branch of medicine he is candid without being depreciatory. The book is a valuable summary, somewhere between a textbook and a layman's guide; it is in many ways well suited to the needs of medical students, and perhaps of some neurologists and neurosurgeons.

BOOKS RECEIVED
(Review in a later issue is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.)


Notes on Mental Deficiency. Compiled by J. F. Lyons and W. A. Heaton-Ward. (Pp. 48 ; illustrated. 3s. 6d.) Bristol : John Wright & Sons. 1953.


