BOOK REVIEWS

across the body or tucked behind an apron, the shoulders dropped and the head bent forward”) and gait (“with a shuffling quality and restricted movement at the pelvis, hips, and knees”). He goes on to describe the causes of this condition, the environment of a mental hospital so frighteningly familiar to one who knows them. (“This patient is becomingly nicely institutionalized and gives no trouble”. “Having E.C.T. weekly and not now aggressive.”)

Cure of the condition may be a long process involving not only the doctor but also nurses, occupational therapists, psychiatric social workers, and indeed the staff of a mental hospital. Both cure and prevention come to far more staff and money than is usually allocated to mental hospitals, still the Cinderellas of the National Health Service.

This is a small book but a very important one. It should be compulsory reading for all those who have to deal with mentally ill patients.


This small book is the report of a W.H.O. study group on the mental health problems of automation which met in Geneva in 1958. The authors discuss the possible mental health consequences of strain among individual workers in automated plants, the repercussions of social change through the introduction of automation (for example the adaptation of the older workers), and make recommendations for future research into these problems. The book can be recommended to industrial medical officers concerned with these matters.

Books Received

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


Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery

The Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery will be held at The Statler Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C. from October 14 to 20, 1961, under the sponsorship of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary-General of the Congress, Dr. Bronson S. Ray, 525 E. 68th Street, New York 21, N.Y.