

further research work by rheumatologists, venereologists, and gastro-enterologists is urgently needed. It is useful at this stage in our knowledge of these conditions to take stock of the many facts that have been accumulated during the past years and to reflect on the many gaps that exist in our understanding of rheumatic diseases.

The monograph under review consists of a detailed consideration of the European literature of the association of pelvic infection and arthritis. It discusses Reiter's syndrome, ankylosing spondylitis, and uveitis in considerable detail, and makes some reference to the work of British authors. The possibility of dissemination of a toxic agent by the lymphatic system is analysed in detail and the anatomy of the lymphatic system is reviewed both pictorially and descriptively. A considerable part of the book is devoted to certain neural theories of the spread of the disease which will not be familiar to British readers, and which appear sometimes to be based on reasoning which would not be accepted without challenge in Anglo-American circles.

The conclusions reached by the author are in keeping with ideas at present held in Great Britain about the association of pelvic infection and arthritis, but his explanation of the mechanism which produces

this association cannot be accepted on the evidence presented.

The book is well written and has clear illustrations. It is stimulating to read, and as a guide to European thought on this subject will be a valuable addition to the libraries of medical schools and research institutes.  
R.D.C.

**Year Book of Dermatology** (1962-63 Year Book Series). Edited by R. L. Baer and A. W. Kopf. Pp. 467, 67 figs. Year Book Medical Publishers Inc., 35 East Walker Drive, Chicago 1; U.K. distributors: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd., 49 Newman Street, London, W.1. (72s.).

This edition maintains the interest and high standards of the Year Book Series. There is, however, little of direct value for the venereologist who is not also engaged in dermatological practice. Only 15 pages are devoted to V.D. and much of this small section deals with developments in the serological tests for syphilis. Other items of interest include skin tests for hypersensitivity to penicillin derivatives (p. 162), dermatitis caused by recurrent urinary infection (p. 346), and some recent studies of herpes simplex and warts (p. 383-388).  
S.M.L.

## FIRST CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

*Naples, June 8-13, 1964*

Full particulars of the programme of this congress may be obtained from the Secretary-General, Clinica Dermatologica, Policlinico, Napoli 321, Italy.