Conclusions

The results of the control programme indicate that methoprene can be a highly successful method of control for Pharaoh's Ants. Because of its mode of action it is able to eradicate a colony of ants, whilst most other ant poisons will only kill the foraging workers.

It should be noted that Pharoid can only be used against Pharaoh's Ants and is not recommended for the control of garden ants.

REFERENCES
The senior author being a physician colours the text with examples from the world of medicine and his personal experience, the second author provides the 'formal' technique of communication, while the third has illustrated the text and emphasised the points therein liberally and profusely by line drawings on each page.

There are 7 chapters headed respectively (1) Giving a Lecture, (2) Making a presentation at a scientific meeting, (3) Teaching in small groups, (4) Teaching practical and clinical skills, (5) Assessing the students, (6) Preparing teaching materials and Using teaching aids.

From the titles of these chapters the reader will get a good idea of the contents of this book. I should like to point out that the word 'clinical' in the title should be ignored. This book is a good primer for all of us. It has a message for each of us. "A department which has the responsibility for teaching should have access to video equipment. You should become familiar with the technical operation of this equipment, a skill which is often taught to primary school children so it should not be beyond the capability of the average medical teacher" say the authors. A sobering thought. "Does your teaching provide stimulation and a challenge?" ask the authors of us!

You the reader and I the reviewer should place this book at our bedside table, the sooner the better. It's worth the asking price of £8.00.

E E VELLA


The cover description heralds this book as being 'authoritative, comprehensive and readable', suitable for both medical students and MRCP candidates. I was for once in complete agreement, finding the book comprehensive yet concise, there being very few wasted words. The first three chapters covering the basics of clinical assessment and investigations are crisp, readable and to the point, providing an excellent introduction at all levels of study.

Chapter four covers rheumatoid arthritis and refreshingly, quite rightly, informs the reader that the wealth of apparent knowledge available on the subject is very much 'after the event' and brings us no nearer to its origin.

I would take issue only on a couple of points especially relevant to the arthritides most commonly seen with a Service environment. Firstly, ankylosing spondylitis; this may indeed be less common in females (or less often diagnosed) but I would disagree that it is necessarily less severe. I feel also that more emphasis should have been made of the diagnostic delay which on average is seven years, but can be, in my personal experience, as long as 40 years. Secondly, in Reiter’s disease intra-articular steroid injection is listed as a treatment. I feel this should have been followed by a short note stating how remarkably ineffective the steroid tends to be in this condition, almost diagnostically so.

The general layout of the book with appropriate lists, pictures and diagrams was good. There was of course the inevitable inverted X-ray which marks most medical textbooks today. In summary, therefore, a useful readable, very reasonably priced and importantly, portable book.

G O HOPKINS


This very well known text book on Clinical Pharmacology is now 100 years old and this 25th Edition edited by Professor Girdwood, President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, has been thoroughly revised although the format remains the same. The expanding field of antimicrobial drugs, the pharmacology of the endocrine system and the section on heavy metals are rewritten, and at the back is an invaluable short list of drugs which the Editor and his authors of the book have completed after discussion with many others.

This book is aimed primarily for the medical student and has a world wide distribution. It is also a valuable quick reference book in general practice when used along with the British National Formulary. The layout is clear, well printed and easy to read.

It would be wrong to criticise this excellent well known book which has for so many years been one of the medical student's guides to clinical pharmacology.

M BRENNAN


When this well printed and handsomely produced book landed on my desk for review I picked it up with avidity having read the advertisements in the BMJ.

There are over forty contributors and considering the differences in ages, experiences, and disciplines, the overall standard is extremely high. It was a pleasure to read the contributions of such old acquaintances as Lord Porritt and Maj Gen Frank Richardson. By and large the contributions were rather a hotch potch as was to be expected and thus made little impact on the reader.

Further, only about six contributors mentioned Dr Elston Grey-Turner and these only en passant so that were it not for the wording on the rear page of the jacket one would never guess that the book was published as a memorial to him. I must say I was sadly disappointed as I had known Dr Grey-Turner for thirty years or so and had liked and admired him.

As regards the Glossary surely the RMO should be rendered "Regimental Medical Officer" and not as "Resi­dential Medical Officer"?

The verdict is a rather disappointing book.

A MACLENNAN