cent) of the new hospitals at present being constructed under the Hill-Burton hospital construction program. Listed are some of the more important elements that make for individual differences in hospitals, such as size, arrangement, organization, community, and so on, which considerably influence personnel requirements. It is interesting to see the effect of the shortened work week on the nursing problem. Whereas 58 nurses, for example, are suggested for a 100 bed hospital on the 48 hour work week, 70 nurses are required for the same hospital on the 40 hour work week.

"These staffing guides were developed from one-day data collected in 22 selected hospitals of less than 100 beds in different parts of the United States." No details of the sample are given. It is, however, obviously very small and obviously very select. I doubt if many of our 3,000 small general hospitals today approach, for example, the 3.39 hours of nursing care per patient per day suggested for a 100 bed hospital, even though 50 per cent of this time represents non-RN attention. Listed, however, are the goals for adequate nursing care (the quality of care is not discussed in this pamphlet).

The tables and charts are clear and understandable. Hospital authorities who remember that they should be used only as guides will find considerable information of value in them.

J. H. Gerber


With the increasing demand of the public for "stories in pictures," this book serves a purpose. It seems better suited, however, to home nursing study groups than to practical nurses, hospital attendants, beginning student nurses, or home economics students for whom it was primarily prepared. It is all too simple and would not gain respect as a permanent textbook by the student nurse in either grade—the registered nurse or the practical nurse student.

The sections on ward routine, bandaging and visual education are the best parts of the book. They are concise and leave out nothing. As we read page 22, we thought of the splendid opportunity which had been permitted to pass in emphasizing the fact that uniforms are for nursing only and not for street wear. In getting ready for a home call, for example, the street dress could have been at the head and not the foot of the list.

On page 80, the technique of using a rectal thermometer is good, but it fails to demonstrate a very important point, to hold the thermometer by hand until it has registered.

The illustrations having to do with stupes and poultices (page 137) could indeed be useful and the caption "Stop. Think!" could very well stand reproducing for posting purposes even though compiled in a negative fashion of writing.

The section giving instructions on how to learn to knit and crochet and the recipes for cooking would appear to be superfluous.

The book, however, is attractive in its light blue cover and illustrations resembling modern pen sketching.

Elizabeth Hall


This book is divided into three parts, dealing respectively with the clinical interpretation, the practical application in clinical diagnosis, and the technic of laboratory examinations. This has made possible the presentation of material from three points of view. First, normal findings and the clinical conditions in which deviations from normal occur are considered. The first half of the book