

more basic textbook of human genetics. Unless the clinician understands something of the problems of penetrance and expression, the detection of carriers and the evidence for inheritance of disease he will be baffled by the confusion of diagnostic heterogeneity and be poorly equipped to distinguish conditions with a Mendelian basis, with a high recurrence risk, and multi-

factorial or environmentally induced diseases usually with little risk of recurrence in a family.

In spite of some limitations largely the result of commendable brevity, the second edition of 'Sorsby' provides a most useful survey of clinical genetics with many excellent chapters by masters in the field.

R. HARRIS

Announcements

Birth Defects

The National Foundation-March of Dimes will entertain a limited number of research proposals for the support of basic and clinical research in birth defects. The National Foundation defines a birth defect as an abnormality of structure, function, or metabolism, whether genetically determined or a result of environmental interference during embryonic or fetal life. Requests dealing with the structure and function of chromosomes, their sub-units, genes, supporting structures, repressor substances and the like, will be encouraged. For further information contact: Vice President for Research, The National Foundation-March of Dimes, 1275 Mamaronek Avenue, White Plains, New York 10605, USA.

Colour Vision Deficiencies

The International Research Group on Colour Vision Deficiencies will hold its third Symposium in Amsterdam on 25-27 June, 1975. The main subjects will be: basic mechanisms of defective colour vision; peripheral colour vision; genetics of colour vision. Free papers will be accepted. Information can be obtained from R. A. Crone, Department of Ophthalmology, Wilhelmina Gasthuis, 1e Helmersstraat 104, Amsterdam-West, The Netherlands. The deadline for the submission of papers is 31 December 1974; forms are available from: G. Verriest, Dienst Oogheelkunde, Akademisch Ziekenhuis, De Pintelaan 135, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium.