During the meeting of the Accident Commission, it seemed that the overwhelming consensus among the representatives of the many medical Colleges and Faculties present was that further diplomas were not really keenly sought by anyone and that sports medicine, by lacking a purely clinical definition, possibly lacked a case for clinical recognition as a specialty in any case.

I hope that the increasing public and professional awareness of the medical aspects of sport will make a new attitude more productive in the next few years of developing our subject. I have stated clearly the advantages, not of separating "sports medicine" from everything else but of creating a climate of interest throughout our many disciplines and medical specialties in which it is a natural thought of teachers, examiners and syllabus writers to add the word "sport" to all their other interests. Thus, for instance, it is not ideal to have a sports traumatologist, a sports paediatrician or a sports physiologist as routine, though clearly there will be highly specialised leaders in each of these fields. It would however be a thoroughly good idea to look at the sporting implications of psychiatry, paediatrics, trauma, rehabilitation, training and physiology and so on. If the Association can act as the focussing point for a wide range of different interests who are actively encouraged to be different but meet at a focus, rather than trying to make everyone conform to some narrow clinical specialist pattern, then we will probably be achieving more in the long run than is fully realised, even now.

P. N. Sperryn

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BOOK REVIEW

FIFTY YEARS AS A BOXER'S DOCTOR

By Col. J. W. GRAHAM

Published: Protel Ltd., Manchester. £1.00

Dr. J. W. Graham has written an interesting and informative book on Professional Boxing. He sketches the progress of this sport from the "bad old days" of the 1920's to the well-controlled game of today. He indicates the days when there was hardly any medical control and many boxers were exploited by their managers and promoters. He refutes the charges of the anti-boxing doctors and lay people that boxers develop "brain-damage", with scientific evidence. I agree that from the medical point of view professional boxing is well controlled today and there is a good liaison between the amateur and professional boxing doctors.

I object strongly to the front cover showing an unconscious boxer. This would convey to the average lay person that the object of boxing is to knock your opponent out. The fear of the alleged accompanying "brain damage" makes parents antagonistic to boxing at schools. I found Dr. Graham's anecdotes very interesting.

J. L. Blonstein