NEW EDITIONS

Aids to Bacteriology. By H. S. SCOTT-WILSON. Seventh Edition. Pp. 286, without illustrations. London: Ballière, Tindal & Cox. 1946.

This small book is most comprehensive in scope. It deals with general bacteriology, immunology, laboratory methods, disinfection, the bacteria, viruses, fungi and protozoa pathogenic to man, animals and plants, and the microbiology of soil, water, sewage and air. The treatment of some topics is naturally very limited, but much useful information is presented.

A Synopsis of Surgical Anatomy. By A. LEE MCGREGOR. Sixth Edition. Pp. xiii + 714, with 699 illustrations. Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1946. Price 25s.

In this new edition of a well-known text-book only minor alterations have been made. It contains much valuable information presented in a synoptic but very lucid manner which renders the book useful to both undergraduate and qualified students. The diagrams are prepared with a nice sense of the value of visual imagery.

Some details in the text may raise criticism. Removal of the adenomatous prostate, for example, should be described as enucleation from a false capsule of compressed gland tissue, and not as enucleation of the gland from its own true capsule as elaborated by the author. It is disappointing too, in this sulphamamide era, to encounter the categorical statement that no drug except urotropine is secreted into the cerebrospinal fluid.

Such minor faults are, however, few; the author’s statements are, on the whole, remarkably reliable and the book well deserves its continued popularity.

Textbook of Gynaecology. By ARTHUR HALE CURTIS, M.D. Fifth Edition Revised. Pp. xvi + 755, with 455 illustrations, 36 in colour. London: W. B. Saunders Company Ltd. 1946. Price 40s. net.

The fifth edition of this well-known American text-book has undergone extensive revision. New matter has been added especially in the sections dealing with ovarian tumours, endocrine disturbances and gonorrhoea infections. Two new subjects are included in the chapter on “Other Tumours of the Uterus.” One is sarcomatoid growth of the endometrial stroma (stromal endometriosis of Goodall) and the other, hypertrophy of the uterus, embraces chronic sub-involution, chronic metritis and diffuse hypertrophy.

Generously illustrated with plates, drawings, photographs and microphotographs, all beautifully reproduced, it gives a clear and well-balanced presentation of modern gynaecology from both the pathological and clinical aspects. This is enhanced by frequent reference to the author’s own experience, considered opinion and present practice in the handling of problems. In this connection it is interesting to note that the author has never found it necessary to employ an operation such as Studdiford describes for stress incontinence of urine, as a vaginal plastic operation is always possible, and, in his hands, successful in relieving this distressing complaint. Again it must be very unusual to find complete absence of tenderness of a pregnant tube, especially after tubal abortion or rupture, although the text conveys the opposite impression.

There is a useful up-to-date bibliography at the end of each chapter, and a feature of the book is the section on anatomy written from the applied and clinical standpoint. Gynaecologists will find this edition most useful.
NEW EDITIONS

X-rays and Radium in Diseases of the Skin. By GEORGE M. MACKEE, M.D., and ANTHONY C. CIPOLLARO, M.D. Fourth Edition. Pp. 668, with 321 engravings and 4 coloured plates. London: Henry Kimpton. 1946. Price 50s. net.

In the previous edition MacKee had several collaborators but now has one of these as co-author. This edition has 160 pages fewer than the last, but this has been achieved by cutting out some of the less essential paragraphs and without diminishing the value of the book. For example, the plant for collecting radon is no longer described.

The authors stress and deplore the tendency in some quarters to use X-rays too freely and to the exclusion of other remedies, especially the more modern ones. It is their opinion that the dermatologist and not the radiologist should treat diseases of the skin as the diagnosis is more likely to be correct when made by the former, and that therefore there is less risk of a condition, not suitable for X-ray treatment, being subjected to this form of therapy. With this opinion the reviewer heartily concurs. The book is still the standard work on this subject and should be in the library of every dermatologist.

Medical Electricity for Massage Students. By HUGH MORRIS, M.D., D.M.R.E. Third Edition. Pp. vii+348, with 114 illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1946. Price 21s. net.

Dr Morris, in this edition of his text-book, has revised and rewritten the whole text. He has now presented a simple but complete exposition of the subject as required for the Electrotherapy examination of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. The early chapters deal with physics and simple chemistry, cells and batteries and apparatus. Later chapters describe in detail the production of high-frequency currents and indications for their use, and finally the production of ultra-violet radiation, their effects on the body and chemical uses.

A useful glossary is appended which will prove very valuable to the student.

The whole text is clear and well illustrated, and will prove a useful text-book for all who are interested in electrotherapy.

Principles of Hematology. By R. L. HADEN, M.A., M.D. Third Edition. Pp. 366, with 171 figures. London: Henry Kimpton. 1946. Price 25s. net.

This book has been written as a simple discussion of the fundamental principles of the subject to make it accessible to the student and general practitioner. Technical procedures are given clearly in considerable detail. The book describes the normal physiology of the blood and the mechanisms of various disordered processes as well as the principles of treatment. Several chapters are devoted to the various diseases of the blood, the clinical pictures being illustrated by records of typical cases. A useful book for the practitioner who is specially interested in this field of medicine.

The M.B., B.S. Finals. By FRANCIS MITCHELL-HIGGS, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. EDIN. Third Edition. Pp. xvi+98. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1947. Price 8s. 6d.

In this edition the author presents the collected papers of the final examinations of London University from 1932 to 1945. The questions have been classified under general headings. This small book should prove useful to medical students working for the final examinations of all Universities.

Demonstrations of Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery. By HAMILTON BAILEY, F.R.C.S., F.I.C.S. Tenth Edition Revised. Pp. xii+375, with 573 illustrations. Bristol: John Wright and Sons Ltd. 1946. Price 30s. net.

Ten editions with seven reprints in less than twenty years is a remarkable achievement for any book. The author has taken great pains to introduce improvements.
and acknowledge helpful suggestions from many friends. In particular, the illustrations, which form such an attractive feature of this work, have been thoroughly reviewed and many new ones have been included. This remarkable work, now being translated into several foreign languages, will continue to make a strong appeal to the medical profession.

*Dental Materia Medica, Pharmacology and Therapeutics.* By WALTER J. DILLING, M.B., CH.B. ABERD., M.P.S. (HON.), and SAMUEL HALLAM, L.D.S., R.C.S. ENG. Third Edition. Pp. xvi+360. London: Cassel & Co. Ltd. 1946. Price 13s. 6d.

In this edition the book has undergone revision and amendments, and additions to the text have been made to incorporate recent advances in dental science. The sulphonamides and penicillin are now included in a section on special antiseptic agents, but the dental methods of application do not include the use of sulphonamide penicillin mixtures—a combination of drugs which is proving to be of considerable value in the dental field. The influence of fluorides upon the incidence of caries is briefly stated and this should prove of value to those who require a short summary of existing knowledge. Some of the statements made with regard to plasters of Paris might be misleading to students, and this section could have been omitted as details of the substance are adequately dealt with in books on dental materials.

The general lay-out of the book is good, information is readily available and useless repetition is avoided. The book can be recommended as of educational value to dental students and as a handbook of reference to the busy practitioner who has little time to spare to peruse more voluminous works.

*Aids to Tropical Hygiene.* Edited by L. NICHOLLS, C.M.G., B.A., M.D. Third Edition. Pp. xii+217. Illustrated. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1946. Price 6s.

The editor draws attention to the profound changes that have taken place in tropical practice since the First World War. New ideas on food and nutrition have made these subjects of increasing importance for those who work in the tropics. Tropical hygiene has now become so large a field that each branch must be dealt with by experts. The book has been written in three sections—Parasitology, Nutrition and General Public Health work—each entrusted to a specialist on the subject.

*Pulmonary Tuberculosis.* By R. N. KEERS, M.D., M.R.C.P. (EDIN.), F.R.F.P.S.(GLAS.), and B. G. RIGDEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Second Edition. Pp. xvi+277, with 124 illustrations. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1946. Price 17s. 6d.

In the second edition of this small book the authors have presented a concise picture of the present position of pulmonary tuberculosis. In recent years the work of Rich has clarified some of the debatable points concerned with the pathogenicity of the disease, and his views have been included in the chapters on Pathology and Resistance. The section of B.C.G. Vaccine has been expanded in view of the recent Scandinavian work. The small handbook offers a comprehensive account of the subject.

*Gray's Anatomy.* Twenty-ninth Edition. Edited by T. B. JOHNSTON, C.B.E., M.D., and J. WHILLIS, M.D., M.S. Pp. xix+1597, with 1359 illustrations. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1946. Price 70s. net.

*Gray's Anatomy* has been extensively revised, and new matter introduced in the sections on Embryology and Neurology. There are nearly 200 new illustrations. This new edition, so well written and produced, inevitably induces the Edinburgh reader to make comparison between it and *Cunningham's Anatomy.* Is there any reason why one should be preferred to the other? Both books are well presented,
thoroughly authoritative and complete; and as regards size and weight, number of pages, and number and attractiveness of the illustrations, the books are almost identical. The X-ray plates in both are a pleasure to study. Cunningham, Eighth Edition, 1943, is slightly cheaper—60s. Some may find the type of Cunningham rather easier to read—the letters are 1·5 mm. in height in Cunningham and 1·25 mm. in Gray, and the lines are 2·5 mm. apart in Cunningham and 2 mm. in Gray. The paper of Cunningham is rather more opaque and there is less tendency for illustrations of the previous page to shine through.

But these are small points, and no doubt the choice of text-book will continue to be influenced by custom and loyalty. Certainly both books are a credit to British Anatomy, and this new edition of Gray’s Anatomy deserves the highest praise.

Clinical Hematology. By M. M. Wintrobe, M.D., Ph.D. Second Edition. Pp. 862, with 197 figures and 14 plates. London: Henry Kimpton. 1946. Price 55s. net.

Advances in haematology have been so rapid recently that it has been necessary to rewrite a very considerable amount of this book. There is an entirely new chapter on the metabolism of the erythrocyte, and many new illustrations have been added. Folic acid, the nitrogen mustards and the Rh. factor have been fully discussed.

Professor Wintrobe’s book is easily the most authoritative on the subject at the present time.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Aschner, Bernard, M.D. The Art of Healing. (William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., London) 12s. 6d. net.

Davidson, L. S. P., B.A. (Cantab.), M.D. (Edin. and Oslo), F.R.C.P. (Edin. and Lond.), F.R.S.E., and Anderson, Ian A., M.B.E., R.S.C. (Aberd.), M.B., Ch.B. (Aberd.). A Textbook of Dietetics. Second Edition. (Hamish Hamilton Medical Books, London) 21s. net.

Doggart, James Hamilton, M.A., M.D. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S. Eng. Diseases of Children’s Eyes. (Henry Kimpton, London) 42s. net.

Geikie-Cobb, Ivo, M.D. The Glands of Destiny. Third Edition. (William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., London) 15s. net.

Edited by Glueck, Bernard, M.D. Current Therapies of Personality Disorders. (William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., London) 17s. 6d. net.

Edited by Greenhill, J.P., B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S. The 1946 Year Book of Obstetrics and Gynecology. (The Year Book Publishers Inc., Chicago) 3·75 net.

Monrad-Krohn, G. H., M.D., F.R.C.P. The Clinical Examination of the Nervous System. Eighth Edition. (H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., London) 16s. net.

Nicole, R. Metallschädigung bei Osteosynthesen. (Benno Schwabe & Co., Basel) 8 Swiss francs.

Ockerblad, Nelse F., B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S. Urology in General Practice. Second Edition. (The Year Book Publishers Inc., Chicago) 5·75.

Strachan, Gilbert I., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. Textbook of Obstetrics. (H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., London) 45s. net.

Spies, Tom D., M.D. Rehabilitation through Better Nutrition. (W. B. Saunders Company, London) 20s. net.

Spiesman, Manuel G., B.S., M.D. Essentials of Clinical Proctology. (William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., London) 21s. net.

Von Andics, Margarethe. Suicide and the Meaning of Life. (William Hodge & Co., Ltd., London) 8s. 6d. net.

Warkentin, John, Ph.D., M.D., and Lange, Jack D., M.S., M.D. Physician’s Handbook. Fourth Edition. (University Medical Publishers, Chicago) 5·50.

Willenegger, Dr H., and Boitel, Dr R. Der Blutspeicher. (Benno Schwabe & Co., Basel) 10 Swiss francs.

Wuhrmann, F., and Wunderly, Ch. Die Bluteiweißkörper des Menschen. (Benno Schwabe & Co., Basel) 36 Swiss francs.

Zeta. The Diagnosis of the Acute Abdomen in Rhyme. (H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., London) 5s. 6d. net.