NEW EDITIONS

Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. By John Glaister, J.P., D.Sc., M.D., F.R.S.(Edin.). Eighth Edition. Pp. xii+691, with 222 illustrations, 89 in colour. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1945. Price 30s. net.

This edition has been thoroughly revised and brought up-to-date and many new illustrations have been included. Much new material has been added in relation to the English and Scottish courts and the relevant legislation throughout has been revised. The toxicological section gives an account of many new substances and the subject of alcoholism is discussed at length. The high standard set by the previous editions has been fully maintained.

The volume will make a substantial contribution to forensic medicine and will prove of great value to both lawyers and medical practitioners.

Chest Examination. By Richard R. Trail, M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Second Edition. Pp. x+122, with 94 illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1945. Price 12s. 6d. net.

This little book has been written mainly to correlate the anatomy and physiology of the lungs with the physical findings—clinical and pathological. The present edition has been slightly enlarged, particularly by the addition of illustrative X-rays, set in the text so that they are easy for reference. The order of contents has been changed and notes added on such points as the interpretation of breath sounds and the "natural abnormalities" of the bony thorax.

Symptoms of Visceral Disease. By Francis Marion Pottinger, A.M., M.D., L.L.D., F.A.C.P. Sixth Edition. Pp. 442, with 97 illustrations and 10 coloured plates. London: Henry Kimpton. 1944. Price 25s. net.

This book attempts to bring an important phase of physiology to the physician. Some symptoms are easy to interpret, others, mainly of a reflex nature, are more difficult. The author discusses man as a segmental organism, and assigns reflex spasms, referred pain and degenerations to the various neurons which mediate impulses from inflamed or irritable viscera. The clinician, knowing these segmental relationships, can hence reason from the affected organism to the zone of the reflex or from the zone of the reflex back to the organ.

Clinical Biochemistry. By A. Cantarow and M. Trumper. Third Edition. Pp. 647, with 29 illustrations. London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company. 1945. Price 32s. 6d. net.

This book will prove to be extraordinarily useful to those who are interested in the applications of Biochemistry to Clinical Medicine. There is a sufficiency of elementary biochemistry in the various chapters to make the book acceptable to those who have not specialised in chemistry, and who yet would be prepared to learn a little of the subject for the sake of advancing their knowledge of scientific medicine.

The text is clearly written, the arguments are easily followed, the whole material is brought more up-to-date than one has any right to expect at the present time, and it covers a very wide range of scientific and medical research. It is a book which one would have great confidence in recommending to clinicians who are interested in the scientific side of medicine.

The indexing is up to the highest possible standards, and there are over a thousand useful references. It is significant to note that only about 5 per cent. of these refer to British publications.
Clinical Pathology. By P. N. Panton, M.A., M.R., B.Chir., and J. R. Marrack, M.A., M.D., with the assistance of H. B. May, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P. Fifth Edition. Pp. ix+450, with 59 illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1945. Price 21s. net.

In this book full details of the chemical, bacteriological and histological procedures demanded of a clinical laboratory are given. Many of the tests are those also used by clinicians, for whom a list of the samples required by the laboratory for chemical analysis is now included. The methods described are not always those in most common use, but there can be few investigations, even those most recently suggested, which are not covered by the tests given. Additions to the present edition include a section on antibacterial chemotherapeutic substances and a sub-section on the Rh agglutinogens.

The findings in health and disease are clearly stated and though the discussion of the significance of abnormal findings is condensed, it should be of use to the laboratory worker for whom it is primarily intended, if not to the clinician.

Diseases of the Nervous System. By F. M. R. Walshe, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.Sc. Fourth Edition. Pp. xvi+360, with 51 illustrations. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1945. Price 15s. net.

The fourth edition of Walshe's Diseases of the Nervous System is a clear and eminently readable account of the commoner nervous diseases. Factors in neurological diagnosis are discussed in the opening chapters; the book ends with a short account of the psychoneuroses and includes a very practicable and simple scheme of examination of the nervous system.

Progress in knowledge since the publication of the third edition has called for revision; several chapters have been thoroughly recast and new matter added on the nature of aetiology and on the concept of psychomatic illness.

Dr Walshe has his foibles; his reluctance to honour great clinicians of the past in the matter of nomenclature leads to the appearance of a few unfamiliar terms. Korsakow's syndrome, for instance, is referred to as the poloneuritic psychosis. As a whole, however, the book affords the best approach to neurological illness for students and general practitioners that I have read.

A Textbook of Ophthalmology. By Sandford R. Gifford, M.A., M.D., F.A.C.S. Third Edition. Pp. 470, with 260 illustrations including 43 in colour. London: W. B. Saunders and Co. Ltd. Price 20s. net.

This short textbook by the late Dr Sandford Gifford can be recommended to students and general practitioners as both reliable and readable.

Many ophthalmologists, however, would disagree with the emphasis laid upon certain lines of treatment. Few, for example, would agree that intensive therapy with vitamin B1 is of proven value in the treatment of retrobulbar neuritis due to multiple sclerosis, or that heparin has been shown to have appreciable effect in lessening the damage resulting from thrombosis of the central retinal vein. The value of riboflavin in the treatment of acne rosacea would also appear to have been over-stressed.

Introduction to Medical Science. By William Boyd, M.D., M.R.C.P.E. Third Edition. Pp. 366, with 126 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1946. Price 18s.

The title of the book is perhaps rather misleading. It is written for the nurse beginning her medical career and is planned to give a general introduction to the study of disease, its causes, and the changes which accompany it.

Professor Boyd is the author of several successful text-books. His clear style and apt descriptions contribute greatly to the popularity of his works.