NEW EDITIONS

*A Manual of Otology, Rhinology and Laryngology.* By HOWARD CHARLES BALLENCER, M.D., F.A.C.S. Third Edition. Pp. 352, with 135 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1947. Price 22s. 6d. net.

In this book the author has provided a concise work on diseases of the ear, nose and throat. Special emphasis is given to applied anatomy, aetiology, symptomatology and diagnosis, while the descriptions of treatment and surgical technique have been curtailed. This edition includes new chapters on headache and neuralgias of the face while the remainder of the text has been revised.

The volume, although primarily for the undergraduate should prove of value to the general physician.

*Emergency Surgery.* By HAMILTON BAILEY, F.R.C.S. Sixth Edition. Part I, Pp. viii + 180, illustrated.

The new edition of this work is to be issued in five paper-covered parts, in order to avoid delays in printing and binding. In part I the chapters on infusion, transfusion, and their applications have been extended; the remainder of the part is devoted to anaesthesia and to certain abdominal emergencies.

The advice is attractively, if somewhat dogmatically, presented, and illustrations in line and colour are a prominent feature. The new edition will be a useful addition to the library of young surgeons who have not been able to obtain extensive clinical experience.

*A Handbook of Ocular Therapeutics.* By SANFORD R. GIFFORD, M.D. Fourth Edition, revised by DERRICK VAIL, M.D. (Oxon.), F.A.C.S. Pp. 336, with 66 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1947. Price 25s. net.

As Dr Vail indicates in his preface the years since the last edition of this helpful manual have seen great advances in the development of ocular therapeutics. The present edition is marked by the omission of the chapter on disorders of the muscular apparatus and the inclusion, though not very adequately, of newer remedies such as penicillin and the sulphonamides, while keeping the book approximately of the same size. In bringing the subject-matter up to date the editor has had a difficult task to steer between the Charybdis of including too little and the Scylla of attempting too much, and on the whole has overcome the difficulties successfully. Though further prunings and additions remain to be made the present edition will be welcome to ophthalmic surgeons who wish to keep abreast with such a rapidly advancing subject.

*Textbook of Public Health.* By W. M. FRASER and C. O. STALLYBRASS. Twelfth Edition. Pp. xi + 571. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1948. Price 30s. net.

The authors of this very popular standard work have taken advantage of the fact that the 1946 edition had become out of print to bring their text up to date, in particular by incorporating changes which will ensue consequent upon the passing of such recent legislation as the Family Allowance Act, the National Insurance Acts, and the Nation Health Service Act. The very high standard of previous editions has been maintained and the authors are to be congratulated on providing undergraduates with an up-to-date and lucid text, as well as covering the ground for the Certificate and Diploma in Public Health under the General Medical Council’s new rules.
Minor Surgery. By Frederick Christopher, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S. Sixth Edition. Pp. x+1058, with 937 illustrations. London: W. B. Saunders Co. Ltd. 1948. Price 60s.

This book has been written as a guide for house surgeons and for the general practitioner who is out of reach of a surgical centre and therefore treats his own cases. This is a large work and deals with much that is not minor surgery. It is almost an encyclopedia and is crammed with information on all subjects. One can read of scorpion stings, Raynand's disease, piercing ears for earrings, or incomplete abortion. The pages are filled with direct quotations from current surgical literature. One chapter is given ten complete pages of references. Chapters are devoted to Minor Surgical Technique, Pre-operative Care and the Surgical Intern. They are excellent. So much information is packed into the pages that often small print has to be used. This makes it a difficult book to read. Many conditions are merely mentioned and given one paragraph. It would serve its purpose better if much were cut out and the commoner conditions were dealt with more fully. However, it will be appreciated as an excellent book for reference as it has been completely revised and contains the latest advances in treatment.

Diseases of the Chest. By Robert Coope, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P. Second Edition. Pp. xv+541, illustrated. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1948. Price 25s. net.

In the preface to the first edition which appeared in 1944 the author describes this book as an endeavour to set forth how diseases of the chest should be taught. The excellent reception of this book has shown how much his views have been appreciated.

Dr Coope lays emphasis on first principles and encourages study of the ordinary methods of investigation—history taking, inspection, palpation, percussion and auscultation. The newer methods are not omitted, but their limitations are stressed. This well-written book gives a full description of all the more common diseases and their treatment. It is illustrated by a number of diagrams, some coloured pictures of histological material and by a series of X-ray reproductions. Though primarily intended for the undergraduate, this excellent work should be helpful to all who are specially interested in this field of medicine.

Practical Food Inspection. Vol. I. Meat Inspection. By C. R. A. Martin, M.R.San.I. Third Edition. Pp. viii+316 with 138 illustrations. London: H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1948. Price 18s. net.

The author has taken advantage of the popular demand for this practical handbook to correct most of the errors and inaccuracies which appeared in the earlier edition. There has been no appreciable departure from the general treatment or lay-out of the text. The work is not a serious, scientific treatise for the expert, but is essentially a practical handbook for students. Those sanitary officers whose many duties include those of meat inspection should be greatly advantaged by having such a practical work available to them as an alternative to the standard reference books consulted by the expert who is exclusively engaged in meat inspection.

Introduction to Psychiatry. By W. Earl Biddle, M.D., and Mildred Van Sickle, B.S., R.N. Second Edition. Pp. ix+337, illustrated. London: W. B. Saunders Co. Ltd. 1948. Price 14s. net.

This is a good book full of much practical and helpful advice, and especially suitable for all those who may in one way or another be responsible for caring for patients in mental hospitals. The care of the new patient, the importance of a tactful attitude both to patient and relations is stressed. Much sound advice is also given in relation to suicide, escape, feeding problems and insomnia. A book which can be recommended.