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NEW BOOKS

Diseases of the Ear, Throat and Nose. By J. D. McLaggan, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S. London; H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1937, (15s. net).

In writing this book Mr. McLaggan stresses the basic principles of Ear, Throat and Nose work and gives more space than is usual to anatomy, function and methods of examination. The student is thus thoroughly grounded in these essentials before attempting the more advanced work of diagnosis and treatment.

The requirements of the general practitioner and student are met by the inclusion of all the common disorders in the speciality according to views based on experience. Important minor details of treatment are described, especially with reference to the ears, which many authors do not explain sufficiently. The most modern views are put forward with regard to Tuberculosis of the Pharynx and Larynx, Diseases of the Esophagus and Bronchi, and the Allergic Diseases in relation to the Nose.

It might be said that this book is over paragraphed, but in this way the author gives greater stress to the facts stated. The illustrations are good and unusually apt and the volume is altogether well produced. It will prove of great value not only to the beginner but also to the specialist. It has punch and no unnecessary padding.

Diets and Recipes and the Treatment of Diabetes and Obesity. By E. P. Poulton, M.A., D.M.Oxon., F.R.C.P.Lond. London: Oxford University Press. 1937. (7s. 6d. net).

This book contains a description of the method of treatment and dieting of patients suffering from Diabetes and Obesity, as carried out, by the author, in Guy's Hospital, London. The method of translating calories required into practical diets is somewhat original and would no doubt be found rather difficult at first for most patients. It has the advantage, however, of allowing considerable variety of choice. A number of recipes in common use in this country are described and their compositions fixed so that they may be incorporated accurately in the patient's diet. The treatment of the various complications of diabetes
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is carefully described. The subject of diabetes in pregnancy, for example, is gone into very fully, and there are also chapters on purines, vitamins and minerals in food.

If the author's methods are carefully followed the book should prove an invaluable guide to the doctor, dietician and patient.

The Truth about Vivisection. By Sir Leonard Rogers, K.C.S.I., L.L.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.S. London: J. & A. Churchill, Limited. 1937. (5s. net).

This volume has been written in frank and aggressive support of the views held by the Research Defence Society.

Unlike anti-vivisectionist literature, the book is judicial and moderate in its contents and contentions. It might fairly be described as an up-to-date edition of the findings of the Royal Commission of 1912. The first half of the book is devoted largely to the demolition of the case against vivisection.

In the second half, Sir Leonard Rogers carries war into the enemy's camp with a complete, clear and consecutive record of the tremendous recent advances made in preventive and curative medicine as a result of animal experiment. These well-arranged and well-authenticated facts and figures might be expected to provide a final answer to our anti-vivisection enthusiasts, but the author is under no illusion as to the type of crank with whom he is dealing.

He points out in preface and text the very large sums of money still culled from the weak-minded by fanatical anti-bodies for the specific purpose of abolishing "vivisection." He warns us that only eternal vigilance will keep these queer people in check, and indicates the Research Defence Society as the inevitable reaction to an unscrupulous and well-endowed anti-vivisection campaign.

The whole volume is a refreshingly clear statement of the case for animal experiment.

The Basis of Tissue Evolution and Pathogenesis. By Albert A. Gray, M.D., F.R.S.E. Glasgow: Jackson, Son & Company. 1937. (7s. 6d.)

This small, engrossing volume contains the fruits of observation, research and deduction of a great mind. Gray's theory is that tissue evolution and differentiation are brought about by what he terms "induced variation" as opposed to the theories of spontaneous variation and heritable mutation. After working out his theory in the clearest
manner he goes on to describe the method of repair in a wound in terms of it, and on this the origin of diseased conditions is based, thus bringing pathological processes into relationship with biological.

The latter part of the book is mainly concerned with the bearing that the theory of induced variation has upon the pathological conditions of the more or less hereditary diseases, deaf-mutism, colour blindness, cleft-palate, &c., representing those hereditary conditions present at birth, and arterio-sclerosis, otosclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, which only appear later in life but show an hereditary tendency. The theory makes an absorbingly interesting study and is clearly and convincingly elucidated.

That part of the book putting forward his vasomotor theory in relation to disease will not be acceptable to all, and one feels that the author intended giving us considerably more on this subject had he lived, but in spite of many missing links it is an ingenious hypothesis and opens up wide avenues for further research.

Sponsored by Sir Robert Muir and Professor Graham Kerr the book has been brought to publication by the author's younger son. In a Foreword he states that Gray intended to publish this work in 1936 but it remained unpublished at his death. We owe Dr. Oliver Gray a great debt for bringing this work to the light of day. It will appeal to a wide circle of readers, biologists, zoologists, pathologists, surgeons and physicians.

New Home Nursing and Hygiene Handbook. By Effie M. Robertson, S.R.N., Assistant Matron and Sister-Tutor, Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and Isabella G. McInroy, S.R.N., S.C.M., Sister-Tutor, Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Published by St. Andrew's Ambulance Association, Glasgow. 1937. (Is. 6d. net.)

An excellent little book; well illustrated; of pocket size and reasonable price. The type is small but clear. The text is well thought out, thoroughly up-to-date, easily read, and interesting.

This is a book that should be in the library of everyone interested in home nursing and hygiene.
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NEW EDITIONS

Surgery of the Sympathetic Nervous System. By George E. Gask, C.M.G., D.S.O., F.R.C.S., and J. Paterson Ross, M.S., F.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1937. (16s. net.)

The second edition of this Monograph should be welcomed by those who, from limited experience, are unable to estimate the value of operations upon the Sympathetic Nervous System. The selection of cases for such operations is a problem which confronts most clinicians; we believe that after studying this book many difficulties should disappear. The authors state that "further experience in the surgery of the sympathetic nervous system has enabled us to form opinions which are sufficiently well-supported to warrant their inclusion in the second edition of this book, and these additions constitute the chief variation from the text of the first edition."

The text is grouped into four chapters. Chapter I. gives a brief, but useful résumé of anatomical and physiological detail. Chapter II. discusses Sympathectomy for Disorders of the Circulation. Chapter III. deals with Sympathectomy for Disorders of the Visceral Motor Mechanism. Chapter IV. describes Sympathectomy for Pain.

Suitable acknowledgement is made when quoting the work of others; a full bibliography is supplied at the end of each chapter.

The authors conclude that "a true estimate of the benefit derived from sympathectomy may be made within two years at the longest and usually within a few months after operation." Evidently "the best results are to be expected when the disease is a stabilized or but slowly progressive disorder unassociated with any gross structural damage."

The Monograph is a valuable contribution to some aspects of the Surgery of the Sympathetic Nervous System.

The Science and Practice of Surgery. By W. H. C. Romanis, M.B., M.Ch.Cantab., F.R.C.S., F.R.S.Edin., and Philip H. Mitchiner, M.D., M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S. Sixth Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill, Limited. 1937. In Two Volumes. (14s. each volume.)

The first edition of this work appeared in 1927 and already it is in its sixth edition fast overhauling other older established works and well
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on its way to becoming a classic. As usual, it is in two volumes, the first covering General Surgery and the second Regional Surgery. The price remains unchanged, a bargain in medical text-books, and the publishers deserve the highest praise for the excellent way in which it is produced.

There has been a good deal of revision. The chapter on fractures and dislocations has been modernized and Bohler's methods incorporated. There is an entirely new section on the sympathetic nervous system; this is wisely kept short but is thoroughly orthodox and complete. The section on x-rays and ray therapy is also brought up to date and is concise and clear. Diseases of the nose, throat, ear and female genitalia are included in the volumes.

While this text-book is mainly intended for students preparing for their final examination it is complete enough to be used for higher surgical qualifications and also for reference purposes. If anything, it is too complete for a student, and probably a freer use of large print to emphasize such things as important points in pathology and symptomatology would make it more valuable to harassed fifth year medicals.

It is difficult now-a-days for any but a team to write a comprehensive book on Surgery. Where one or two only are responsible there tends to be an uneven quality about the work, with those sections in which the authors are particularly interested well written and the others less well so. In new editions this shows itself as a peculiar reluctance to scrap older lines of treatment in favour of the new. For example, we have a remarkably up-to date section on Thoracic Surgery. In contrast to this the treatment of syphilis is hoary and could quite well receive the old-age pension. Mercury is unduly stressed, tryparsamide is not even mentioned, bismuth is said to be still on trial and the primary lesion is described as being diagnosable by its clinical features. It is surely high time that students were taught that the only diagnosis of primary syphilis permissible is by the dark-ground. Bone sarcoma is not in line with modern views, and Ewing certainly never described the tumour credited to him here. Surely Muir deserves to be at least mentioned in Paget's disease of the nipple? Thomson-Walker is spelt thus and not with a "p," and it is less than fair to his memory and to that of Harris to say that open prostatectomy is attended with great shock. Nor would these two illustrious ones look with favour on the non-drainage of a pyelolithotomy or the opening of a prostatic abscess into the urethra. It is a pity that the American classification of brain tumours has not been openly adopted instead of being placed alongside the old contradictory one.
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In spite of these criticisms, however, this is an excellent production, and we expect that a further edition will be required at no distant date.

Medicine: Essentials for Practitioners and Students. By G. E. Beaumont, M.A., D.M.(Oxon.), F.R.C.P., D.P.H.(Lond.). Third Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill, Limited. 1937. (21s. net.)

The first edition was published in 1932, a second in 1934 (reprinted in 1935), and a third has now appeared. This is surely sufficient to show the popularity of this book, which runs to about 700 pages, and is well produced at a reasonable cost (one guinea).

The author states frankly in his preface to the first edition that his aim is to include only essentials, omitting extraneous matters, to describe the essential features of each disease and the investigations required for diagnosis, and to give an up-to-date account of a definite line of treatment. In these matters he succeeds excellently, and the result is a book which lies midway between some of the popular Synopsis of Medicine and a full-dress Text-book. This leads, in our opinion, to an inherent difficulty, namely, that to read through the book is to find it somewhat dull. It moves along like a motor-car in low-gear, but always gets there. It misses the top-gear smoothness of a more discursive book, which encourages the reader to ponder as well as to memorize.

It is an extremely good book for the young practitioner who wishes to conform his tentative diagnosis and to obtain indications for a positive line of approved treatment. It seems of less value for a medical student to work with during his clinical course.

The author is never afraid to name proprietary medicines of proved merit, which almost all practising physicians employ and the very numerous prescriptions, written out in full, very greatly add to the value of the book as a practical guide in treatment.

Every effort has been made in the new edition to keep up-to-date. A few recommendations, indeed, might be considered premature, at least for students and young graduates; e.g., Benzedrine (p. 315), Ergotomine Tartrate in Migraine (p. 336), which are not free from dangers unless used with great care.

The accuracy of the book as a guide to diagnosis and treatment is noteworthy, and only a few statements strike the reviewer as odd. e.g., Duodenal Ulcer, (p. 43) "Smoking: The effect of this is doubtful as in a series of over 400 cases, over 80 per cent were non-smokers." This seems a quite extraordinary series in Britain.
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The Hair and Scalp. By Agnes Savill, M.A., M.D. Glasg., M.R.C.P.I. Second Edition. London: Edward Arnold & Co. 1937. (12s. 6d. net.)

In reviewing this monograph two years ago we expressed the opinion that it contained so much information in such convenient form that it was likely to prove very useful, and the fact that a second edition has now appeared shows that this has actually been the case. The new edition shows only small changes in detail, and is only some twenty pages longer. It is a veritable mine of information on the anatomy, physiology, pathology and therapeutics of the scalp, and should be in the possession of every practitioner.

Illustrations of Regional Anatomy. (Sections I. to V.) By E. B. Jamieson, M.D. Second Edition. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, Limited. Published in Seven Sections complete at 47s. 6d. net

Just over a year ago we reviewed Sections VI. and VII. of the first edition. Sections I. to V. of the Second Edition have now appeared, and are uniform with the last two sections of the First Edition in that they possess similar binding, have a table of contents, and nearly all the illustrations are coloured. Dr. Jamieson, with commendable skill, has succeeded in improving upon previous work of a high order and we have confidence in recommending "Regional Anatomy" to demonstrators and students.

The price of Sections I. to V. inclusive is 32s. 6d. net.

Mothercraft: Ante-natal and Post-natal. By R. C. Jewesbury, D.M. Oxon., L.R.C.P. Lond. Second Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill, Limited. 1937. (10s. 6d.)

In this edition some changes have been made in diet and additional recipes given.

The section by Dr. John S. Fairbairn on ante-natal conditions and the treatment of the mother before and after pregnancy is interesting and will be found useful. Dr. Mellanby contributes a chapter on the Physiology of Lactation.

The section on breast feeding is excellent, the case for breast as against artificial feeding being convincingly stated. Even more usefully, in such a book as this, advice is given for the surmounting of the numerous obstacles which often arise when theory is being put into practice.
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The chapters on general management of the child, its development, and on common ailments are also distinguished by the practical information given on points which are ignored in text-books but important in the actual case of the child. These sections will be found most useful to all those interested in the welfare of children.

Artificial feeding according to Dr. Truby King's methods is explained in detail. One cannot but feel that the art of feeding a normal infant is made unduly elaborate without convincing reason for the use of so much ritual.

Apart from this, this book is informative and practical.

Pocket Atlas of Anatomy. By Victor Pauchet and S. Dupret. Third Edition. London: Humphrey Milford (Oxford University Press). 1937. (12s. 6d. net).

This Pocket Atlas of Anatomy first appeared about ten years ago. The third edition has now been submitted for review. The "Atlas" consists of 345 plates but no elaborate scheme has been adopted. It should continue to prove a helpful companion in the dissecting-room and a suitable book for rapid revision.

Victor Pauchet, who was a surgeon of international repute, died some months ago. He has left behind him a record which few can hope to attain.

Demonstrations of Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery. By Hamilton Bailey, F.R.C.S.Eng. Sixth Edition. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Limited. 1937. (21s. net.)

The obvious merits of this outstanding publication have necessitated re-issues or new editions on eight occasions since its original production in 1927, thereby indicating the likelihood of this book joining the ranks of the Classics in Medical and Surgical literature. In it the author demonstrates pictorially by a profusion of photographs and drawings, augmented by a concise text, all of which are notable for their clarity, correct and practical methods of eliciting physical signs in the clinical investigation of surgical cases.

Recollections of things seen are undoubtedly more vividly and permanently retained in the memory than those of things heard or read about. It is probable, therefore, that more information and instruction per page and per time spent in perusal can be derived from this book by the student than from any other medical or surgical publication. Its comprehensiveness ensures the student that
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all ground, which should be covered by his clinical teachers, is covered by no less a teacher than Mr. Hamilton Bailey. As a decade is a short spell in a practitioner's life, there must be many who have not made the acquaintance of this valuable volume during their student days, and to these we can confidently recommend this book.

In the chapter entitled "Some Basic Physical Signs" the author briefly draws attention to some points of surgical importance in regard to the pulse. He could with advantage make some reference to the importance of blood-pressure readings in certain cases, as it is probably true that, compared with the routine taking of blood-pressures, as practised in medical wards, on those comparatively few reading taken in a surgical ward more important decisions have to be come to appertaining to life or death for the patient.

Were we to employ the method of assessing hotels in the A.A. handbook in connexion with this publication, we would award the author and his publishers for their worth-while production—five stars.

Muir and Ritchie's Manual of Bacteriology. Revised by CARL H. BROWNING, M.D., LL.D., D.P.H., F.R.S., and THOMAS J. MACKIE, M.D., D.P.H. Tenth Edition. London: Humphrey Milford (Oxford University Press). 1937. (20s. net.)

Owing to the withdrawal of Sir Robert Muir from active participation in this revisal, the original authorship is now brought to an end. The present collaborators emphasize their desire to carry on the tradition and spirit of the earlier editions, and very ably have they done so. The development of the subject in the last five years, however, has necessitated extensive revision of every chapter, and the inclusion of most of the newer work of importance has led to some increase in size of the actual volume. It is found, for instance, that a considerably greater space has been devoted to Filterable Viruses.

The medical bacteriologist will find in the present work a careful and reasonable review of every aspect of this ever-developing subject and in the footnotes a wealth of information and useful references. The casual reader can rely on the accuracy with which the present-day views on bacteriological matters have been expounded, and may well be amazed at the changes which a very few years have brought about. The student with a selective capacity will find here most ably expressed all he need know about the relationship of bacteria to human disease, but it must be pointed out that the developments of the subject have advanced considerably beyond the simpler practical
Applications with which the average student should be familiar. The chief merit of the work, the condensation of every aspect of medical bacteriology into such relatively small space, inevitably detracts from its merit in the class-room, except for the more advanced student.

The general lay-out of the volume is excellent, the paper and printing are both good and the illustrations, particularly of bacterial cultures, are a feature, contrasting very favourably in their clarity and accuracy of reproduction with certain of those in previous editions.

_A Manual of Obstetrics._ By Thomas Watts Eden, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.E., F.C.O.G., and Eardley Holland, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.E., F.C.O.G. Eighth Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill, Limited. 1937. (24s. net.)

The eighth edition of this _Manual_ requires no formal introduction. The authors have re-arranged much of the material and numerous sections have been entirely re-written. There are few errors in type, those noted appear on page 335, line 28, and page 696, line 39.

Old matter has been discarded in favour of new with the end-result that this volume contains only 15 pages more than the last.

The section on normal pregnancy deals with sex physiology in a straightforward manner. The rôle of the ductless glands is discussed in light of recently acquired knowledge.

Under the heading of contracted pelvis, Caldwell & Moloy's work is freely quoted and pelvic radiography is given rather more consideration than is merited. Instead of the familiar expressions "generally contracted" and "flat" pelvis, we find "Small Gynecoid" and "Platypelloid." This can hardly be calculated to make the students' load lighter.

In a book of this size there is much that calls for critical comment. In their preface, the authors state that their aim is greater simplification and more precision. Accordingly we direct attention to a number of points.

In discussing abortion (page 211) bleeding is said seldom to endanger life, yet later (page 221) it is stated that hemorrhage may be dangerous at any stage in the process. Again, it is stated (page 359) that the fetus cannot survive compression of the cord for more than ten minutes, while subsequently (page 379) it is suggested compression may be withstood for twice that time.

In discussing the forceps operation in contracted pelvis (page 697) posterior parietal presentation is said to be definitely more favourable,
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whereas previously (page 421) this expression was applied to the anterior parietal obliquity. Both cannot be right.

The book is well illustrated, but surely Figure 119 (page 238) can hardly show the end of the second stage of labour, since the child is still shown in utero and internal rotation has not been completed. It is difficult to understand, also, why Figure 358 (page 676) shows axis-traction forceps upside-down, an error carried forward from the last edition.

While it is admitted that opinion differs with regard to treatment in different centres, few will agree that the De Ribes's bag merits a four-page consideration since its abode is now the museum, or that every cardiac case in which there has been decompensation, should be confined to bed for her last four months during pregnancy.

Many of the lines of treatment advocated are contrary to the views we accept and teach, not the least being anterior vaginal hysterotomy for an inevitable abortion, and Cesarean section for the more severe cases of accidental haemorrhage.

*Elements of Surgical Diagnosis.* By Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, K.C.V.O., C.B.E., M.S., F.R.C.S. Revised by Eric Pearce Gould, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. Eighth Edition revised. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1937. (10s. 6d. net.)

No outstanding alteration has been made in this edition which, nevertheless, is a handbook of considerable use and value. The new illustrations are excellent and may be taken as a standard for larger books. We believe that the title of Chapter XXXVI. is unfortunate. Would "Chronic Abdominal Discomfort" not be a better term? Should reference not be made to cirrhosis of the liver, in this chapter, especially as some rare causes of "Dyspepsia" are included in the list given on page 535? Is paragraph three on page 654 correct? We have been unable to find any reference to arteriography and we feel that the section on the central nervous system could, with advantage, be amplified. There is a typographical error on page 382.

The orderly arrangement of the book is one of the features which should make reference easy. No medical student will regret spending half-a-guinea on this Manual which contains rather more than the "elements of surgical diagnosis."