**NEW EDITIONS**

**Notes on Infant Feeding.** By G. B. Fleming, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.F.P.S., and Stanley Graham, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.F.P.S. Third Edition. Pp. 66. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1948. Price 3s. net.

This pocketbook is an outline of infant feeding, compiled primarily for the use of medical students. The authors describe in simple language the principles and practice of infant feeding, including the feeding of premature infants. The chapter on breast feeding is disproportionately brief; fuller consideration might have been given to the antenatal and therapeutic aspects of its management.

**The Premature Baby.** By V. Mary Crosse, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G. Second Edition. Pp. 167, with 14 illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1949. Price 12s. 6d. net.

Another edition of this excellent book will be welcomed by all doctors and nurses, who have to care for premature infants. All aspects of prematurity are discussed: management in general, institutional and domiciliary; feeding in all its aspects, with particular reference to the peculiar nutritional needs of premature and feeding techniques; disorders of premature infants; statistical considerations. No major criticisms are warranted, but the comparative statistics of various maternity hospitals are misleading because they have not all been brought up to date. No detail of management or nursing technique has been overlooked. This is high praise, since the successful care of premature depends largely on meticulous attention to detail.

**Refraction of the Eye.** By Alfred Cowan, M.D. Third Edition. Pp. 287, with 187 illustrations and 3 coloured diagrams. London: Henry Kimpton. 1948. Price 27s. 6d. net.

Although it is debatable if a highly mathematical form of presentation is the best method of introducing the clinician to the practice of refraction, if this method is to be used, the use of illustrative experiments, as employed by the author, is most helpful. It would, however, seem highly desirable that future editions should contain a preliminary note regarding material required in carrying out such experiments, since otherwise the student must constantly interrupt his reading to go in search of whatever is required.

The chapters on lenses are particularly lucid, and it is interesting to note the views of an experienced ophthalmologist regarding the clinical value of the ophthalmometer, particularly in estimating astigmatism in aphakic eyes and in detecting irregular corneal astigmatism, two points often not sufficiently appreciated by those criticising the instrument from a theoretical point of view.

**Medical Photography.** By T. A. Longmore, Hon. F.S.R. Fourth Edition. Pp. 1008, with 320 illustrations. London: The Focal Press. 1949. Price 50s. net.

This bulky volume, now more than twice the size of the original edition, covers the subject of radiographic and clinical medical photography in considerable detail. All the standard processes are demonstrated very fully and in simple language; technical terms are explained both in the text and in a glossary at the end of the book. In the appendix also will be found a list of weights and measures, photographic chemicals, formulae, etc. The photographic illustrations are good, and the explanatory diagrams are reasonably simple and easily understood. This book has considerable value even to the experienced photographer as a means of easy reference.
Handbook of Medicine for Final Year Students. By G. F. Walker, M.D., M.R.C.P. Fourth Edition. Pp. 305. London: Sylviro Publications Ltd. 1948. Price 25s.

A vast amount of information is provided in this small handbook; all common and several of the less common medical conditions are described, often in synoptic form but on occasions in very readable prose.

Emphasis is laid on the clinical and practical approach to the various diseases. The last section on medical conduct gives useful information to the embryo physician.

An inadequate index considerably lessens the value of the handbook for rapid reference.

Diseases of the Adrenals. By Louis J. Soffer, M.D. Second Edition. Pp. 320, with 45 illustrations and 3 coloured plates. London: Henry Kimpton. 1948. Price 32s. 6d. net.

There is perhaps no other organ which has excited so much interest and elicited so much study as the suprarenal glands. The author has collected all the recent information and literature available about these organs.

The second edition of this book can be regarded as a complete up-to-date treatise upon this subject. The author describes the isolation and identification of the large number of adrenal cortical steroids excreted in the urine. The effects of these secretions upon other tissues, especially the cellular and chemical elements of the blood are discussed at length. The effects of the secretion of the suprarenal medulla and its mode of action upon other endocrine glands through the anterior lobe of the pituitary are described clearly and concisely. This book is a most authoritative work on diseases of the adrenals.

Synopsis of the British Pharmacopoeia. By H. Whippal Gadd, F.C.S. Fifteenth Edition. Pp. 249. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1948. Price 5s. net.

This small book designed to fit the waistcoat pocket contains a digest of the B.P. Doses are given in imperial and metric measures and there are a few notes on each of the drugs. In addition there is a summary of the law on poisons and dangerous drugs in Britain and Ireland. A handy vade mecum.

Eden and Holland's Manual of Obstetrics. By Alan Brews, M.D., M.S., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. Ninth Edition. Pp. xii+796, with 36 plates and 399 illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1948. Price 42s.

In taking over the authorship of the ninth edition of this standard work of modern British obstetrics, Alan Brews had made extensive changes. These were necessary to incorporate the considerable new material of accepted value which has resulted from recent researches in various aspects of obstetrics and its allied subjects. The alterations have been made with skillful penmanship so that clarity of exposition, combined with a style that holds the reader's interest—both features of previous editions—are retained. This book can be commended to graduates preparing for senior examinations as a basis from which to expand their reading, and apart from that more special appeal, students and practitioners will find it a reliable and readable guide to modern British obstetrical practice.

A Short Practice of Surgery. By Hamilton Bailey, F.R.C.S., and R. J. McNeill Love, M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S. Eighth edition in 5 parts. Part IV. Pp. xi+808, with 163 illustrations (21 coloured). London: H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1949. Price £2, 12s. 6d. the set.

It now seems probable that the complete edition will have been published within a year. Now that Part IV is ready there only remains one further part to be produced. As usual this part is noteworthy for its excellent illustrations. By far the best chapter deals with the Breast. The text has not been noticeably altered since the previous edition but some new photographs are added.
A Synopsis of Regional Anatomy. By T. B. Johnston, C.B.E., M.D. Sixth Edition. Pp. viii+436. London: J. & A. Churchill, Ltd. 1948. Price 18s. 6d. net.

As in other editions the aim of this book is to provide the student with a volume of topographical anatomy. In this edition the extrapyramidal system is discussed more fully than in the previous editions and as before the book is an ideal one for the revision of regional anatomy.

An Index of Treatment. Edited by Sir Robert Hutchison, Bart., M.A., LL.D., F.R.C.P. and R. Hilton, M.A., F.R.C.P. Thirteenth Edition. Pp. xii+984, with 100 illustrations. Bristol: John Wright & Sons. 1948. Price 84s. net.

In the writing of this book the editors have had the assistance of upwards of 70 contributors, leaders in various departments of the profession.
The work covers the whole field of medicine, each article being complete in itself.
The material is arranged alphabetically to facilitate easy consultation but in addition there is a very full index which allows ready access to information not the subject of special articles.
Since the last edition appeared in 1940, so many important advances have been made in medical treatment that it has been necessary to rewrite a great deal of the book. The result is excellent and the "Index" may be regarded as an up-to-date exposition of standard therapy.

Principles and Practice of Ophthalmic Surgery. By Edmund B. Spaeth, M.D. Fourth Edition. Pp. 1044, with 649 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1948. Price 75s. net.

In the opinion of the reviewer, the value of this book would be enhanced if a more prominent place were given to the personal views of the author, in regard to the operative procedure to be adopted in any particular case, in preference to the inclusion of a necessarily brief description of a multiplicity of alternatives. Similarly, in regard to illustrations, it would be more helpful if a smaller number of selected operations were very fully illustrated, in place of diagrammatic drawings of a large number of possible techniques.
This book does, however, undoubtedly provide an exhaustive survey of current views on all branches of ophthalmic surgery, and, as such, will continue to be of value to every practising ophthalmic surgeon.

Clinical Chemistry in Practical Medicine. By C. P. Stewart, M.Sc., Ph.D., and D. M. Dunlop, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.(Edin. And Lond.). Third Edition. Pp. vii+324. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1949. Price 17s. 6d. net.
The advances that have occurred in medicine during the past ten years have been many. These have entailed the complete rewriting of this third edition to bring it abreast of the clinical chemical investigations associated with modern medicine. As before, this book provides both the senior student and graduate with practical and useful information concerning the various laboratory investigations he is called upon to perform.

An Introduction to Pharmacology and Therapeutics. By J. A. Gunn, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. Eighth Edition. Pp. ix+301. Oxford University Press. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. Price 8s. 6d.
The new edition of Professor Gunn's well-known little book has been largely re-written and includes new sections on chemotherapy, sex hormones and coagulation of the blood. It presents a short but comprehensive survey of the subject which is clearly written and easy to read and understand. It does not attempt to replace the larger textbooks but fulfils a very useful purpose in presenting the essentials of the subject in an attractively assimilable form. The book should continue to be popular with students beginning the study of Pharmacology.
Bacterial Metabolism. By Marjory Stephenson. Third Edition. Pp. xiv+398. London: Longmans, Green & Co. Ltd. 1949. Price 3os. net.

Originally published in the Monographs on Biochemistry Series, the first edition of this book was an outstanding presentation of a difficult, rapidly moving and enthralling branch of biochemistry.

It was itself a factor in the more recent accelerated progress of our knowledge of bacterial metabolism.

The new edition, unfortunately the last we shall have from the author's pen, fully maintains the high standard of its predecessors. It presents a clear and scholarly picture, not only of the older, basic work on bacterial metabolism but of the recent startling advances which have followed the application of such newer techniques as the use of isotopes, and new approaches such as investigation of the processes leading to cell synthesis.

_Bacterial Metabolism_ is emphatically a book to be read by all biochemists and biologists, and not only by those labelled "bacteriologists."

Psychological Medicine. By Desmond Curran and the late Eric Guttman N. Third Edition. Pp. 252, with 20 illustrations. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1949. Price 12s. 6d. net.

This deservedly popular book has reached its third edition in six years. It sets out to provide a "preliminary orientation" for the student and practitioner, and it succeeds in combining soundness, clarity and liveliness in its presentation. Additions and alterations have been made particularly in the sections on Mental Deficiency, Schizophrenia, Hysteria and the newer physical methods of treatment.

Such an exercise in simplification and compression is open to criticism in detail. Psychopathic states are treated under the heading of character anomalies; and new groupings are proposed of vulnerable, unusual and abnormal, and sociopathic personalities: these are descriptive innovations which do not seem to carry any practical advantages. The inclusion of paranoid states in schizophrenia has led to difficulties in exposition and a rather lame appendix: they would be better classified apart, and merit fuller consideration. In future editions pharmacopoeial names of drugs should be given throughout, with the names of proprietary preparations in brackets.