New Editions

procedures which are now carried out, in routine fashion, as part of a complete clinical examination. The section on the nervous system is perhaps the most useful in the book: it is concise, yet sufficiently full to summarise the essential anatomical and physiological facts relative to a clinical examination. Short chapters have been added on the examination of children, the eye, the ear and throat, and the skin. This book will be found useful by students who are working in medical wards and are desirous of taking full advantage of the clinical material placed under their observation. The authors have succeeded in covering a wide field in relatively small space.

NEW EDITIONS

Operative Surgery. By J. Shelton Horsley, M.D., F.A.C.S. Third Edition. Pp. 893, with 756 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1928. Price 63s.

The first edition of this work appeared in 1921, and that a third edition is now necessary is testimony to the fact that its many excellent qualities have been widely appreciated. The general scheme does not depart from the usual book on Operative Surgery, but the subject matter is well arranged, the text is lucid, logical, and very readable, the type large and clear, the illustrations profuse, helpful, and well chosen, the index full and adequate. The author describes those operations which he has himself proved to be good or which appear to him best suited for the disease, and therefore the book is the more valuable as it is in great part a record of personal experience. Much recent work on cancer is summarised, recent physiology of the stomach is reviewed in its bearing on gastro-intestinal surgery, and many newer operations are incorporated. Numerous references are given throughout the book for these new inclusions, and the author is to be congratulated on the discrimination with which he has selected what is likely to be generally accepted and helpful.

The Art of Anaesthesia. By Paluel J. Flagg, M.D. Fourth Edition. Pp. xviii + 384, with 135 illustrations. London: J. P. Lippincott Company, 16 John Street, Adelphi. 1928. Price 21s.

This is the fourth edition of a book published in 1916 by an American anaesthetist. The first part of the volume deals with general anaesthesia in its stages of induction, maintenance, and recovery, a chapter being added on the signs of anaesthesia. The various agents, combinations, and methods are then described in detail.

The chapters on ether anaesthesia and nitrous-oxide-oxygen anaesthesia are excellent. The author favours what he calls the closed drop method of inhalation, and has devised an apparatus for its employ-
New Editions

ment, but he enters fully into the subject of insufflation and colonic administration. The attitude of the author to chloride of ethyl and chloroform is what one would expect from an American. He would limit the rôle of chloride of ethyl to that of precursor to ether induction; and would only use chloroform in very exceptional circumstances, ruling it out altogether in obstetric work. Local and regional, including spinal, analgesia receive adequate attention and there are useful chapters on carbon dioxide, emergency anaesthesia, pre-operative medication, and selection of the anaesthetic.

The book can be confidently recommended to anyone who likes a spacious volume. A considerable degree of compression might improve the book and some of the illustrations seem irrelative to the subject, but these are minor objections in view of the soundness of the reaching throughout.

An Introduction to Practical Bacteriology. By T. J. Mackie, M.D., D.P.H., and J. E. McCartney, M.D., D.Sc. Second Edition. Pp. xiv + 390. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1928. Price 10s.

Those who have used and appreciated the first edition of this admirable practical manual of bacteriology will welcome the second edition, which includes additions that increase its field of usefulness, especially for senior students and working bacteriologists. The original text has been completely revised. Important editions describing new and improved methods, are incorporated in the chapter on the cultivation of bacteria, and in the enlarged section on immunological methods. The inclusion, in the descriptive chapters, of important pathogenic micro-organisms of domesticated animals, increases the usefulness of the book to students of veterinary science.

The addition of new matter has increased the size of the book by about 100 pages, but it is still a small and handy volume, and the essential character of the work has not been sacrificed, though its scope has been increased. It gives a vast amount of useful information in a form more convenient and accessible than obtains in larger works. It is a book which may be confidently recommended to students attending a practical course, elementary or advanced. And the practising bacteriologist who has once become acquainted with its excellences will not willingly be without it in his laboratory.

A Text-Book of General Bacteriology. By Edwin O. Jordan, Ph.D. Ninth Edition. 778 pages, illustrated. London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, Ltd. Price 28s.

The number of editions of this book speaks for its popularity and practical value as a text-book. The work is comprehensive in its scope and touches on all the various branches of bacteriology apart from the purely medical aspects. The new edition does not apparently represent
Notes on Books

any substantial change in the general structure of the book and merely brings the text up to date in subjects in which recent research has added new knowledge. Certain sections, however, have been completely revised, e.g., the chapter on the protozoa. This edition certainly maintains the high standard of previous editions and can be recommended as a valuable and attractive text-book of bacteriology.

NOTES ON BOOKS

A Treatise on Diseases of the Hair and Scalp, by S. Dana Hubbard, M.D. (Kempton, 25s.), purports to give accurate information to the medical profession and laity on the diseases of the hair and scalp, and on the care of the hair. All the information in it on the diseases of the scalp could be easily and much more accurately obtained from any good text-book on dermatology. The descriptions of the diseases are not good and the inaccuracies of fact too numerous to mention. In the section on the treatment of ringworm of the scalp (pp. 293 et seq.), treatment by X-rays and thallium are not even mentioned. Epilation of the hair by forceps in Tinea capitis is recommended! Such information is most dangerous when read by the lay public who are not in a position to judge of the inaccuracies. Therefore we cannot recommend the book either to the medical profession or the general public.

Diseases of the Larynx, including those of the Trachea, large Bronchi, and Oesophagus, by Harold Barwell, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Humphrey Milford, 12s. 6d.). This is a new (third) edition greatly enlarged and partly re-written of the author's well-known little book, first published in 1907. It has been Mr Barwell's intention to provide a small practical manual mainly for the senior student and the general practitioner. He is to be congratulated on introducing a book which is concise and not lacking points of detail when necessary, not too dogmatic and rarely going beyond the scope of the general practitioner. The illustrations are helpful and easy to follow, although perhaps the newly added chapter on endoscopy might have been more fully illustrated and showing more modern instruments.

Stammering, a Psycho-analytic Interpretation, by Isador H. Coriat, M.D. (New York and Washington, Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing Co.), is a disappointing book. One hoped that psychotherapy might prove of some use in treating a neurosis like Stammering, but there is little help for the stammerer or his teacher here. Essentially the author regards stammering as "a form of gratification of the oral libido, which continues the post-natal gratification of nursing," . . . "a neurosis in which fixation of the libido at the developmental phase of oral erotism persists into maturity." . . . "The individual who has