**NEW EDITIONS.**

*A Short Handbook of Cosmetics.* By Dr. Max Joseph, Berlin. Second English Edition, Revised, with Appendix. London: William Heinemann (Rebman, Ltd.). 1914. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Most English readers understand by "cosmetics" powders and paint used for personal adornment; but on the Continent the word has a wider signification, and embraces all knowledge of the hygiene of the skin and hair, with the treatment of their minor affections. The book before us is meant to instruct in such matters, and the advice given is in the main sound. Were one critical one might complain of the brevity of the directions for the employment of the methods recommended. Error could easily arise in consequence. Many of the formulæ seem to us unnecessarily complex, while the English equivalents for the metric system are not, in all instances, correct. The translator has added a short appendix with some useful hints.

*Elements of Surgical Diagnosis.* By Alfred Pearce Gould. Fourth Edition. Edited by Alfred Pearce Gould, F.R.C.S., and Eric Pearce Gould, F.R.C.S. Pp. 706. Illustrated. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1914. Price 10s. 6d. net.

In this new edition the section on abdominal diagnosis has been rewritten and revised, and there have been added diagrams, and also some excellent skiagrams, pyelograms of collargol injections into the pelvis and ureter of the kidney. The Basle nomenclature is also given in brackets occasionally, but not sufficiently for the student now starting surgery.

One has nowhere seen such excellent chapters on the differential
diagnosis of tumours, and those on abdominal conditions also merit the highest praise, and should be invaluable to all students and practitioners, even although they cannot understand some of the rest of the book; e.g. the chapters on the nervous system are much too intricate for the student, but might delight the specialist on that subject. The chapter on breast conditions might have been more extensive, and one misses there the condition of intra-canicular fibroma, the most difficult disease to differentiate from scirrhus. The authors are rather apt to use long words and terms where simpler ones would do, e.g. "traumatopnea," "haemarthrosis," "neuro-mimesis," "osteocopic," etc. The only error observed, probably "printer's," is "pacineum" on p. 670 for perineum. There is also an excellent index to the book.

A Text-Book of Practical Therapeutics. By Hobart Amory Hare, M.D., B.Sc. Fifteenth Edition. Pp. 998, with 151 Illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1914. Price 21s. net.

A book which has reached its fifteenth edition does not require any special recommendation. In the present issue not only has the text been revised and brought up to date, but certain articles, such as those on salvarsan and neo-salvarsan, tuberculin, anaesthetics, and digitalis, have been entirely rewritten in order to bring the book into line with the most recent views on these subjects. It is just the kind of book the general practitioner wishes to have beside him if he desires to treat his patients on scientific lines and on common-sense principles.

Practice of Surgery. By J. G. Mumford, M.D. Second Edition. Pp. 1032, with 683 Illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co. 1914. Price 30s. net.

It is four years since the former edition appeared. By suitable alterations and additions the subject-matter has been brought up to date. The text has been extended by 16 pages, but the number of illustrations, which are mostly excellent in quality, remain the same. The text-book is designedly of clinical and practical type, and the various subjects are not necessarily discussed from a systematic point of view. As far as possible the author describes the surgical affections in order of their importance, and space is not wasted on rarities. Certain subjects of importance seem to have been overlooked. One would expect to find in a text-book of this size at least a short description of Pott's disease of the spine and some details about the surgery of the semilunar cartilages. Such omissions are, however, infrequent, and the author may be complimented on producing a text-book which serves as a reliable guide to the practice and teaching of modern American surgeons, and which bears more of the stamp of originality than is usual in this class of publication.
The author's object in bringing out this somewhat formidable-sized volume has been to collect and place before the medical public such scattered knowledge as there is at present on the subject of local anaesthesia. The writer remarks that the subject is absolutely inadequately and superficially treated in the average surgical text-book, whereas the special monographs usually overestimate the value of one particular method. It is pointed out that besides an intimate knowledge of the innervation of each operative field, every tissue and part of the body requires a particular and definite technique for successful anaesthesia.

This volume may be said to cover the whole subject of local anaesthesia, containing as it does chapters on the history of its use, sensation and pain, and the effect of osmotic tension of watery solutions, besides dealing very fully with what we are apt to consider the more practical part of the subject.

Perhaps the feature of the book which will appeal to the greatest number is the large amount of space—nearly half the volume—which has been given to the minute description of the technique required for operations in different parts of the body. These descriptions are clearly worded, and are further elucidated by numerous illustrations. That Professor Braun has brought his methods wonderfully near perfection may be judged from some of the photographs taken during the course of operations in which the patients are evidently no more than mildly interested by the removal of large portions of their anatomy.

Without wishing in the slightest to depreciate Professor Braun's results, we cannot help feeling that the success, or even possibility, of an operation under local anaesthesia depends, other things being equal, on the temperament of the patient. We have ourselves seen operations performed under local anaesthesia on patients in Germany and Switzerland which patients in this country, even under exactly similar conditions, can seldom if ever be brought to tolerate.

Except that we can find no reference to the use of quinine and urea hydrochlorate as anaesthetic agents, this book seems as complete as is possible to make it. The printing is large and clear, and the illustrations numerous and good. The book should meet with a very ready acceptance at the hands of all surgeons and practitioners alike who have any call to make use of local anaesthetics.

We wish particularly to congratulate Mr. Percy Shields on his most admirable translation from the original German, and trust the book will meet with the success it deserves.
Urgent Surgery. By Felix Lejars. Translated by William S. Dickie, F.R.C.S. Vol. I. Third Edition. Pp. 599. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd. 1914. 25s. each volume.

M. Lejars gives us the results of a wide experience in emergency surgery. Most space is devoted to a description of the surgical procedures pure and simple, but, where necessary, diagnosis is also considered in deciding between different lines of treatment. The book is therefore eminently practical, and will be useful not only to surgeons but also to general practitioners who have to deal with urgent surgical conditions.

The whole tone of the book is excellent, and the clear and thoroughly practical way in which it is written is worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Dickie has endeavoured to retain the French spirit as far as possible in the translation, and his success in so doing adds considerably to the interest and attractiveness of the book. The illustrations are numerous and good. The only point open to criticism is the excessive number of foot-notes, which are somewhat irritating to read and in many cases appear unnecessary.

The fact that this work is in its seventh French and third English edition speaks for itself, and we have no hesitation in warmly commending it as a clear and comprehensive guide to emergency surgery.

The Blood: A Guide to its Examination and to the Diagnosis and Treatment of its Diseases. By G. Lovell Gulland, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., and Alexander Goodall, M.D., F.R.C.P.E. Second Edition Pp. xvi. + 384. Edinburgh: W. Green & Son, Ltd. 1914. Price 15s. net.

The favourable reception which we predicted when the first edition of this excellent handbook appeared has evidently been realised, for a second edition has been called for within two years. Although the revision has been thorough, it has only been necessary to add some fifty pages, so that the book remains of moderate size. The chief additions cover descriptions of new counting apparatus, dark-ground illumination, the oxydase reaction, and von Schilling-Torgau's work on the structure of red blood corpuscles. We are glad to notice that although the refinements in structure of the leucocytes in leucæmia which have been made out by modern staining methods are fully described, they are subordinated to the more familiar and clinically useful grouping of these cells which has served well in the past. In addition to these new features, however, there are evidences on almost every page of revision in points of detail, and the book has been brought up to date in every particular. We can only repeat what was said when the first edition was noticed in these pages—that Drs. Gulland and Goodall's book is the best presentment of its subject in the English language.