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A Treatise on Hygiene and Public Health. By B. N. Ghosh, F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), and J. L. Das, D.P.H. (Cal. Univ.). Fourth Edition. Pp. 507 + xxiv., with 62 illustrations. Calcutta: Hilton & Co. 1921. Price 9s. 6d. net.

If the contents of this well compiled and handy volume represent the standard of education on Preventive Medicine in India, we have no cause to fear the future of Hygiene among our sister Universities abroad. The book is well written, and its teaching safe, sound, and reliable. It is not rudimentary, as many students' treatises incline to be. In fact, one could safely recommend the volume to more advanced students than those seeking to pass ordinary degree examinations. We were impressed by the chapters dealing with Parasitology and Preventable Diseases. They are very well done. A decided omission, which must be rectified in a succeeding edition, refers to the question of Venereal Diseases. Child Welfare is discussed; but that big problem in Preventive Medicine, Venereal Disease, omitted.

Human Embryology and Morphology. By Arthur Keith, M.D., F.R.S., LL.D., F.R.C.S. Fourth Edition. Pp. viii + 491, with 490 illustrations. London: Edward Arnold. 1921. Price £1, 10s. net.

That, again, eight years have elapsed since the publication of the previous edition, the war must be held responsible, for this book retains its place in the hands of senior students and of practitioners as the authoritative exposition on its subject. The new edition is slightly enlarged in size. Although only sixteen additional pages have been introduced, the gain of two or three lines per page, and a little compression of some diagrams and of the letterpress, have resulted in a material increase of the information contained. Thirteen diagrams have been advantageously replaced, twenty-one have been discarded, and sixty-two new ones added. As would be expected, the new diagrams occur mostly in the parts devoted to the general development of the embryo, and to the special development of the nervous system. Special chapters have been assigned to "the notochord and somites," to "age changes in the embryo and fœtus," and to "the structures developed from the primitive pharynx." It is a satisfactory improvement that the prosencephalon and the circulatory system have each two chapters allotted to them; while the urogenital system and limbs are dealt with, each in a single chapter.

We cannot approach this excellent volume in a spirit of criticism,
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for it fills, and adequately fills, a position no other work attempts. We feel that the author with his unrivalled knowledge might, with universal approval, double the size of his book. Abnormalities are so varied and their record so scattered through literature, that a work dealing fully with them and their relation to ontogeny and phylogeny would be most acceptable.

We miss a reference to Browne's work on anencephaly published in the Edinburgh Medical Journal a year ago, for it appears this interesting syndrome receives less attention than it deserves. We are surprised that the lucid description of the curious ossification of the clavicle has not called forth a reference to that rare abnormality of a joint in its mid-shaft. We are thankful that there are few sentences so ambiguous as (p. 144), "If the brain of the infant is arrested in its growth, premature ossification of the sutures occurs, the condition of microcephaly resulting therefrom," the synostosis being the exception, not the rule, and the microcephaly being brought about by absence of brain-growth, not by presence of ossification.

Certainly the profession is indebted to the distinguished author for the absence of a confusing terminology. Justifiable alterations have been admitted, but while deprecating eponymous nomenclature we welcome with fond appreciation many old terms, confident that a day of saner apellation is dawning.

We give the new edition our heartiest greeting and our strongest recommendation.

Indispensable Orthopædics. By F. Calot. Second English Edition. Translated by A. H. Robinson, M.D., M.R.C.S. Pp. xii + 1108, with 1163 illustrations. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1921. Price £2, 2s. net.

This edition has been translated from the Seventh French Edition, and, as before, deals especially with treatment based on the technique employed by M. Calot at Berck.

The first part of the volume describes in great detail the methods of making and applying plaster apparatus, and the technique of puncture and injection in external tuberculosis, which is the treatment advised by the author, who strongly condemns open operation in these cases. "Remember," he says, "that tuberculosis does not love the knife, which rarely cures, often aggravates, always mutilates."

Under "Special Technique" all the Acquired and Congenital Orthopaedic Affections are fully dealt with, and each step in the treatment is made quite clear by means of the numerous excellent illustrations.

In an appendix further notes are given on Cervical Adenitis and other tuberculosis lesions, the efficacy of the puncture and injection.
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form of treatment being shown by a number of coloured plates. Syphilis of bones and joints, and the treatment of Acute and Chronic Osteomyelitis are also discussed, and the author concludes with an article giving his opinion on the value of Heliotheraphy.

The translator has been eminently successful, and the volume should prove of the utmost value not only to the general practitioner, for whom it was primarily written, but also to those especially interested in orthopaedic work.

The Wassermann Test. By Chas. F. Craig, M.A., M.D. Second Edition. Pp. 268, with 58 tables and 12 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1921. Price £1, 5s.

The account of the Wassermann reaction given by Lt.-Col. Craig is certainly one of the best, if not the best, exposition of this difficult subject in the English language. An attempt has been made, and made successfully, to put within the reach of the general practitioner a connected and common-sense explanation of the methods used in the test, and, what is more important, its limitations are duly noted.

The book is divided into ten chapters, and it is difficult to say which of these is the best, but those dealing with the result of the test in various stages of syphilis, as an index of the prevalence of syphilis in communities, the effect of treatment on the reaction, and the examination of the cerebro-spinal fluid, all call attention to important facts which should be ever present in the mind of the general practitioner of medicine.

For practitioners especially, but also for the laboratory worker, Colonel Craig's book should prove an ever-present help.

Chemical Pathology. By H. Gideon Wells. Fourth Edition. Pp. 695. W. B. Saunders Company. 1920. Price 35s. net.

The fourth edition of this work has followed rapidly on the third, and even so, numerous recent investigations have necessitated additions to many sections, and alterations in some.

The chief additions are in the parts dealing with the essential factors governing growth, and in the sections on immunity, and on the multitudinous phenomena at present grouped under the general heading of anaphylaxis.

The particular value of the work lies in the fact that it is far removed from being a "text-book." There is no dogmatic division of the so-called "proved" from the "unproved"; every subject is dealt with in far greater detail than is necessary merely to present current views thereon; research work which has been so far unconfirmed finds here its place side by side with investigations which have become
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classical. Yet the knowledge of the writer is so wide that it is probable that most of the changes in future editions will be in the direction of additions and modifications rather than of deletions.

The author has considered the elimination of the first chapter in the interests of space-saving. It is to be hoped that he will retain it. It deals with the elementary principles of physical chemistry and of the chemistry of living cells, and is of great use to the many readers who are not physical chemists.

The book is as up-to-date as it is possible for any volume of its size and scope to be. Investigators in every conceivable branch of medicine will find it of the greatest value.

*The Nose and Throat and their Treatment.* By Charles A. Parker, F.R.C.S. Edin., and Lionel Colledge, M.B., F.R.C.S. Eng.

Second Edition. Pp. xv + 583, with 241 illustrations. London: Edward Arnold. 1921. Price £1, 5s. net.

This book was originally founded on lectures given at the Throat Hospital, Golden Square, with a view to helping those who were attending or had attended a short course of study at special departments for diseases of the throat and nose. This idea has been kept in view in the preparation of the second edition. After a concise description of the various methods of examination, including direct laryngoscopy, oesophagoscopy, and the suspension method, a chapter is devoted to methods of local treatment, with formulae. Nothing very new appears among the formulae, but some useful hints and directions with regard to their application are given. In a section on external operations tracheotomy and intubation are described and compared. The differences of the two operations are well brought out, and a definite opinion in favour of tracheotomy over intubation is expressed. Diathermy as a method of treatment receives some notice. Complications arising in the upper respiratory tract in the course of specific fevers have a chapter to themselves, and the laryngeal appearances in early and late phthisis are clearly described. The writers are guarded in encouraging operative interference in the larynx in tuberculosis. In a book of this size, one would have expected more consideration to be given to anatomy, particularly intra-nasal anatomy, operative procedure receiving a good deal of attention. Diseases of the oesophagus receive more than passing mention, and a good description is given of pharyngeal diverticula. The book can be recommended to students and practitioners as giving a useful general idea of the specialty.