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*Essays on Surgery of the Temporal Bone.* By Sir Charles A. Ballance, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., M.S., F.R.C.S. Two Volumes. Pp. 604, with 125 plates and 120 figures. London: Macmillan & Co. 1919. Price £5, 5s.

During the last twenty-five years Sir Charles Ballance has written numerous papers on the grave complications of aural disease and the major operations of aural surgery; these papers, re-written and expanded, are the foundation of this book. The author states that the work was ready for publication shortly before the outbreak of the war, and one cannot help regretting that it was not brought out at that time. As publication could not take place in 1914 it would have been better to delay still further, so that the work might represent more accurately the present state of otology. The section on Anatomy, for example, appears to have been written about 1908, and otology has made great advances since then — especially as regards our knowledge of the labyrinth. Reference should certainly be made to the importance of radiograms of the temporal bone.

The various chapters take the form of essays, each being headed by one or more selections of poetry and prefaced by a lengthy historical survey, much of which is interesting, though this feature is considerably overdone. The first two chapters are entirely concerned with historical observations. Dr Charles D. Green has been responsible for searching the literature of each subject, but it cannot be said that he has brought the various sections up to date. Further, the book partakes largely of the character of a compilation, and would have been better had it contained more of the author's own experiences. No one can deny that otology owes an enormous debt to the work of German and Austrian surgeons, and the author by his extracts has generously acknowledged this. On the other hand the work done in Anglo-Saxon countries has hardly received the attention it deserves.

One great advantage of this book is that the writer is a general surgeon as well as an otologist, and is able to bring his general surgical experience of the treatment of suppurative conditions to bear on his remarks regarding the complications of middle ear disease. His analogies in many cases are very apt.

The fact that the work is composed of old essays reprinted leads to considerable redundancy; e.g., tuberculous otitis media is dealt with in the section on Pathology and again in those on Acute
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and on Chronic Otitis Media. It would have been better had there been a separate chapter on this subject.

Chapter III. deals with Anatomy. In a work published in 1919 the statement should not be made that a sclerotic mastoid process is usually the result of deep-seated inflammation without giving Cheatle's teaching on this subject (page 60). The section on Pathology is good. Ballance supports the view that cholesteatoma is an ingrowth of squamous epithelium from the meatus.

In the chapter dealing with Acute Otitis Media, contrary to modern experience the author states that in this condition fever is usually present. Paracentesis, or, as the author prefers to call it, "incision of the drumhead," is well treated. Ballance is guarded in his recommendation of the blood-clot method of healing after the Schwartze operation, and records one case in which this method was followed by a fatal result. At the end of this chapter there are numerous illustrative cases.

In the chapter on Chronic Purulent Otitis Media, the author points out that chronic middle-ear suppuration is always the result of a preceding acute otitis. No acute case should be allowed to become chronic. Most of the chronic cases follow one of the acute infective diseases, and, in the majority, the preceding acute otitis has not been treated. So long as otorrhoea is present we can never tell where or when it will end or what it will lead to. Sound views are expressed on the indication for the radical mastoid operation. Though Ballance does not claim to have been the first to introduce skin-grafting, great credit is due to him and to Mr Marriage for their work on this subject. The author's opinion in regard to the modified radical, often known as the "Heath" operation, in chronic cases is as follows:—"To attempt to cure cases of chronic otorrhoea without removing the 'bridge' is to act in opposition to the fundamental principles of surgery." Ballance is rather sketchy on the treatment of the Eustachian tube during the radical mastoid operation; failure to close the tube is a common cause of persistent otorrhoea.

Chapter VII. deals with the Labyrinth, and gives a good account of Ewald's historical experiments on the examination of the vestibular apparatus. There is, however, no mention of the pointing test. The views of various operators are given as to the indications for, and the methods of performing, the labyrinth operation. Little is said about labyrinth fistula and circumscribed labyrinthitis, but there are some personal experiences on division of the eighth nerve by the cerebellar route, and an interesting suggestion for restoring hearing by making an artificial opening in the bony wall of the cochlea and covering it with a skin graft.

The chapters dealing with the Pathology and Symptoms of the
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Intracranial Complications begin with the usual historical survey, but many of the case records are ancient. The histories of such cases are much better given in recent times. Some of the illustrations are excellent.

In discussing the treatment of the intracranial complications, Ballance rightly states that the ideal treatment is preventive. The fate of most of these cases lies in the hands of the general practitioner, who should lose no time in seeking such aid as may be necessary. In dealing with brain abscess, the author holds that the finger is the best and only suitable probe. As regards drainage, he advocates rubber tubes, and holds that irrigation of the abscess cavity is not advisable. He believes that otitic venous infection need not always be preceded by thrombosis, and holds that the statements that operation on the jugular vein in cases of sinus thrombosis is never required, and that it is always required, are equally erroneous. Exploration of the sigmoid sinus by means of a hollow needle is entirely futile. If the surgeon considers it essential to ascertain what is inside the sinus he must open it and see. A valuable feature of this chapter is the inclusion of illustrative cases, especially of fatal ones.

The chapter on Injuries of the Ear contains accounts of original cases and of others collected from the literature. This section, however, does not include the experiences gained in the recent war. Ballance appears to favour early operation in cases of fracture of the base involving the middle ear.

The description of the Operative Treatment of Facial Palsy is particularly good. It enters fully into regeneration of nerves after injury and contains much personal experience.

The work is well and clearly written and should be accessible to every otologist, as it is a mine of information. It is well printed on good paper, and as a rule the photographs and plates are excellent. Many of the illustrations, however, are very old, and some of them are accompanied by little or no clinical history.

A Manual of War Surgery. By Colonel Seymour Barling and Major John T. Morrison. Pp. 479, illustrated. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1919. Price 15s. net.

The question as to how far the advances made in war surgery during the late war will influence civil surgery in the immediate future is one of general interest. This admirable manual indicates in how many different branches of surgery new methods have been developed which will remain as permanent advances in general surgery. The late appearance of this war manual should not restrict its circulation,
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as all who are interested in surgical work will find in it valuable information in regard to all types of casualty surgery. The sections on the physiology and pathology of war wounds by Captain E. F. Bashford, and on the principles of wound treatment by Major J. T. Morrison, will well repay perusal. They show clearly how considerable is the resistance of healthy vital tissues to infection, and how important is the revival of all devitalised tissue which may act as a breeding-ground for bacteria. The desirability of immediate or of secondary closure of wounds is firmly established, and the frequency of re-infection of open wounds from the surrounding skin unless careful precautions are taken is emphasised. Of the special sections, those dealing with wounds of the chest by Colonel Barling and Major Sevestre, with wounds of the bones by Captains Hartley, Shore, and Le Mesurier, with wounds of the joints by Colonel Forbes Fraser, and with wounds of the face and jaws by Major Kazanjain, are of particular interest, for they deal with regions where the greatest advances have been made. The freedom with which the lung can be exposed and handled, and the necessity for thorough cleansing and the removal of foreign material and devitalised tissue in thoracic as in other wounds, are illustrated.

The section dealing with wounds of the bones is both exhaustive and concise. The many valuable methods which were either introduced or elaborated and perfected during the war, and particularly in the course of the latter two years, are described by writers who themselves took a very active part in this important development of surgical practice.

This book can be very cordially recommended to all who are interested not only in military but in civil surgery, and who desire to incorporate in their work the many valuable surgical lessons of the war.

The Sympathetic Nervous System in Disease. By W. Langdon Brown. Pp. viii. + 161, with 9 illustrations. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1920. Price 10s. 6d. net.

In this work, based on the Croonian Lectures which he delivered in 1918, the author sketches, in the first place, the main plan on which the autonomic nervous system is arranged. This he does briefly and clearly, if only in outline, but the practitioner will probably find that outline sufficient for his purposes.

The action on the sympathetic system of the secretions of the adrenal, pituitary, and thyroid glands is fully described in each case, and the question of the various ways in which glycosuria may arise receives elaborate and thoughtful discussion. The author considers that this condition, if persistent, may be due either to over-action of the adrenal, pituitary, or thyroid glands, or to under-action of the
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pancreas; and further, that in such cases there may or there may not be structural changes in these glands. The bearing of such consider-
ations on the treatment of diabetes is indicated in some detail.

In connection with the disorders of digestion, the author points out the importance of the influence of the autonomic system. He indicates that Lane's kinks are in many cases not purely mechanical, but are produced in reality by spasm of the sphincters, together with inhibitory relaxation of the intestinal wall, both of these being the result of over-action of the sympathetic.

The book is well and clearly written. Its arguments are logical, are founded on accurate physiological data, and are correspondingly convincing. It is well worth the attention of the busy practitioner.

The Mechanism and Graphic Registration of the Heart-Beat. By
THOMAS LEWIS. Pp. xx. + 452, with 349 illustrations. London:
Shaw & Sons, 1920. Price £2, 7s. 6d. net.

This book is essentially a second, enlarged, and vastly improved edition of the author's monograph, The Mechanism of the Heart-Beat, published nine years ago. The character and scope of the book remain unchanged. The reader must not expect to find any presenta-
tion of clinical cardiology in the usual acceptance of the term. The experimental pathologist has little sympathy with the ordinary methods of investigation which are essential to the practice of clinical medicine. To the author, clinical tests, "the expedients and opportunisms of the bedside worker," are but means to "litter and obstruct the path of knowledge." While the scope of the book is therefore limited to one branch of cardiology, this is dealt with very thoroughly. The text is mainly an epitome of the author's numerous original papers.

The first part is devoted to the anatomy and histology of the nodes and junctional tissues, and to physiological principles, including an account of the normal pacemaker of the mammalian heart, the spread of the excitation wave, the meaning of the electrocardiographic deflections, and their alterations associated with preponderance of one or other ventricle. The second part presents a philosophic discussion regarding the analysis of disorders of the cardiac mechanism as revealed in arterial, venous, and electrocardiographic curves. The outstanding features of the book are the wealth of experimental research it summarises, the constant correlation between experimental and clinical records, and the identification of cardiac disorders observed clinically with those induced experimentally in the lower animals. In these respects the book will prove of the utmost value to physicians and experimental pathologists who are seeking to unravel the nature of cardiac arrhythmias.

There is much new matter in the text, which has been brought
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fully up to date, especially in the chapters dealing with the interpretation of ventricular deflections, extra systoles, flutter, and ventricular fibrillation. Flutter is regarded as consisting probably of a simple "circus movement," in which the contraction-wave travels continuously through the wall of the auricles because the refractory period becomes somewhat shorter than the total duration of spread of the excitation process. Auricular fibrillation is held to be due, not to the excitation of many centres, but to depressed conduction in the auricular wall. This hypothesis, which is not new, is in keeping with clinical facts.

There are many explanatory footnotes, some of which are of sufficient importance to have justified their inclusion in the text. The extensive bibliography and author index reveal a remarkable output—of experimental research, particularly in the United States, during the years 1914-1918. Of the 349 illustrations, all of which are admirably clear and well reproduced, a large number are new. Those presenting simultaneous records of the arterial, venous, and electrocardiographic curves are particularly good.

Common Infections of the Kidneys with the Colon Bacillus and Allied Bacteria. By Frank Kidd, M.B., B.C. (Cantab), F.R.C.S. Eng. Pp. xx+331, with 21 illustrations. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1920. Price 18s. net.

This book is collated by Mr Kidd from facts observed in cases that have been under his personal care. A short summary of these cases is given at the end of the book and provide a convenient reference on any of the points on which further information may be desired. The book is written in a style that is eminently controversial and correspondingly fascinating. The thesis on which it may be said to be based is that the human body is, according to Mr Kidd’s conception, a bacterial sponge. The majority of the bacteria are in no way harmful but really beneficial to their host, but in certain circumstances, especially when the power of resistance of the body to infection is lowered, they may be harmful agents. The entrance of micro-organisms into the blood stream is, according to Kidd, an incident of frequent occurrence. They are excreted from the circulation by the kidneys, through which they may pass undetected, unsuspected, and without producing damage. When, however, they do produce disease, pyelitis results, acute or chronic in nature. The frequency with which acute pyelitis is mistaken for some other disease is emphasised, as is the curative effect in such cases of the alkalinising treatment. The principle that he aims at is at once to wash the patient’s tissues freely with water and alkalies. He advocates the administration of potassium citrate given freely till the urine is alkaline. The fulminating type of pyelitis Kidd also treats with
alkalies, but he wisely points out that in such cases there is undoubtedly a type in which an experienced surgeon can see at a glance that nephrectomy is the only hope. In chronic pyelitis he recognises that, in cases which fail to be cured within three months by a general line of treatment directed to correct the underlying cause, resort should be had to renal lavage.

This book is to be strongly recommended to those who desire a clear and logical exposition of certain common infections of the kidney, given by a surgeon of wide experience and clear judgment. No one will agree with all he says, but everyone will benefit by much that he says.

*Studies in Neurology.* By Henry Head. 2 Vols. Pp. 862, illustrated. Oxford Medical Publications. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1920. Price £3, 3s. net per set.

These volumes consist chiefly of a reprint of the well-known series of papers dealing with the problem of sensory innervation contributed by Head and a number of collaborators to the pages of *Brain* between 1905 and 1918. On their first publication, the earlier papers, describing the phenomena of peripheral sensation, were recognised as opening up a new chapter in clinical neurology, and subsequent work along the same lines has confirmed the general applicability of Head's "new hypothesis." Since 1905 many of the fundamental conceptions then elaborated for the first time have become almost axiomatic—e.g., the distinction between protopathic, epicritic, and deep sensibility. The later papers pursue the investigation into the spinal cord and brain-stem, and treat in an exhaustive way of the relations between cerebral lesions and the sensory disorders arising therefrom. In all seven papers, each dealing with a different aspect of the functions of the sensory nervous system, are here assembled, and the collection forms a most impressive contribution to modern medical science.

Besides forming a permanent record of a fine piece of work, these volumes will make a wider appeal as an example of how any such problem ought to be investigated. *A priori* hypotheses are abandoned; large numbers of cases are examined and minutely described; objective criteria are applied as widely as possible; and every generalisation is formulated with due regard to the scope of the observations which support it. It is, of course, impossible to eliminate entirely the personal factor in testing sensory phenomena, but conditions as near perfection as possible were surely achieved in at least one of the experiments here recorded. For the express purpose of observing the changes due to section and repair of cutaneous
sensory nerves, Head had the radial and external cutaneous nerves of his left arm cut, and the resulting paper—"An Experiment in Human Nerve Division"—is a unique piece of work.

The work is prefaced by an excellent chapter on the methods of examining sensation, and the equally important matter of the clinical application of these methods. The volumes do credit to the publishers, and special commendation is due to them for the unvarying excellence of the numerous illustrations.

The Nation's Food: A Statistical Study of a Physiological and Social Problem. By RAYMOND PEARL, Ph.D., Sc.D., LL.D. Pp. 274, with 42 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1920. Price 16s. net.

From the author's position as chief of the Statistical Division of the U.S. Food Administration from 1917-1919, and as Professor of Vital Statistics at Johns Hopkins, it is obvious that he had exceptional advantages in attacking this enormous subject. And although he modestly disclaims having done more than bring together a mass of carefully made bricks for the various specialists in agriculture, physiology, economics, and sociology (and admittedly he has done all that), the book is a pioneer work of a most important subject.

The war brought home to all nations, whether engaged in it or not, the importance of the question of food supply, actual and potential, at home and abroad, friendly and hostile; and no nation found itself in a position to give an answer. Here for the first time the material is available for a statistical survey of the food resources and the food demands of the United States.

The basis of the survey is naturally and necessarily physiological, not trade or commerce. The questions are—how much protein, fat, and carbohydrate is produced annually as used or usable human food? how much of these are exported and imported? what is the actual annual consumption? and what is the distribution of imports among the various classes of food?

After a detailed survey of the primary and secondary food production, in which the carefully arrayed data are accompanied by skilfully prepared diagrams, the total production is taken up. It is interesting to find that the latter increased steadily to a maximum in 1915-16, then fell off in the next two years; also that the average increase during the four war years was 10 to 12 per cent. over the three pre-war years.

It is impossible to point all the morals, but certain conclusions are of especial interest. Thus 53 per cent. of the protein comes from secondary foods, i.e. animal sources, and for fats the figure is 82 per cent.; further, there was little change during the seven
years. (The corresponding British figures are 42 and 92 per cent.). In the final calculation of the food consumption per adult man per day, the following significant results are obtained—protein, 120 g.; fat, 169 g.; carbohydrate, 541 g.; and calories, 4288. The important factor of loss in cooking and avoidable waste of edible material is estimated to be—protein, 5 per cent.; carbohydrate, 20 per cent.; fat, at least 25 per cent.; and when these are applied to the above daily ration, the figures become 114 g., 127 g., 433 g., and 3424 calories.

The arrangement of the bewildering mass of data, the clear and numerous diagrams which alone enable one to grasp their significance and show the direction in which things were moving, and the production of the work, cannot be too highly praised.

The Medical Aspects of Mustard Gas Poisoning. By Alfred Scott Warthin, Ph.D., M.D., and Carl Vernon Weller, M.S., M.D. Pp. 267, with 156 original illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1919. Price 42s. net.

The introduction of poisonous gases as an offensive in war-time necessitated an immediate investigation of these substances. The problem presented so many sides that it was quite apparent that the quickest and most accurate results would be obtained by co-ordinated work. The present volume is an excellent example of this method of investigation. It is comprehensive of the action and lesions of dichlorethylsulphide, commonly known as mustard gas. The matter is dealt with in detail according to the principal systems involved, and the various lesions have been investigated both from the experimental and clinical points of view. There are also chapters on general pathology and clinical pathology and treatment of this condition. The value of the text is greatly enhanced by the excellent and numerous photographs and photomicrographs, while the bibliography of the subject is very complete.

The Diseases of Infants and Children. By J. P. Crozer Griffith, M.D., Ph.D. Vol. I., pp. 885; Vol. II., pp. viii. + 657, with 436 illustrations, including 20 coloured plates. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1919. Price 72s. net.

Professor Crozer Griffith writes this book from the experience of almost forty years as medical practitioner, hospital physician, and teacher in pediatrics. He is already well known on both sides of the Atlantic as an industrious and valuable contributor to current medical literature, and as the author of The Care of the Baby, a manual for mothers and nurses, which has had a very large sale in
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America. But in these two large volumes he has now for the first time garnered the complete rich harvest of his long experience of practice and teaching in pediatrics. And it may be said at once that the book is worthy of the high reputation of the author and of American pediatric science. The whole wide field of diseases of children is covered, even such infectious diseases as measles, scarlet fever, smallpox, chickenpox, etc., which are usually reserved for special text-books, being thoroughly dealt with. The first division of the subject-matter deals with the special anatomy and physiology of child-life, hygiene, breast and artificial feeding, foods and food-values, and gives an unusually clear and authoritative account of this difficult and complicated subject. In perusing these pages the reader can feel, no doubt, that he is receiving the results of first-hand and intimate experience. The author next deals with the diseases of the newly-born, with infectious diseases, with general and nutritional diseases including rickets and scurvy; and then proceeds with the diseases of the various systems. The volumes are very richly illustrated with temperature charts and photographs, and to most of these are appended brief case-records. These numerous case-synopses are in themselves a valuable part of the book, and give point and interest to the diseases which they illustrate. The author’s acquaintance with the European and American literature on his subject is also attested by the great number of references included in the text. Here indeed one feels that the writer almost overloads his pages, and loses clearness and compactness in aiming at thoroughness. It must not be thought, however, that the book is an encyclopedia. Some of the subjects are very briefly dealt with. The large subject of imbecility and mental defect in childhood is compressed into a few pages, and receives a scarcely adequate treatment; while under rickets and scurvy recent important work upon vitamins is merely glanced at. But as a whole, and as the work of one man, the book is a very notable performance; and it immediately takes place in the first rank of text-books on this subject in the English-speaking world.

An Atlas of the Primary and Cutaneous Lesions of Acquired Syphilis in the Male. By Major Charles F. White and Dr W. Herbert Brown. Pp. vii + 32, with 83 illustrations. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd. 1920. Price 27s. 6d. net.

As Lieut.-General Goodwin points out in his foreword, “There is probably no other disease in which early detection and consequent early treatment are of more paramount importance” than in Syphilis. The authors have succeeded admirably in giving the student and practitioner helpful aid to diagnosis in the excellent series of photographs which they have collected from the large amount of clinical
material which passed through their hands. The color work is consistently good, and the photographs as viewed through the stereoscope give one a life-like picture of the lesions which falls little short of actual observation. The supplementary notes are short, concise, and to the point, and bear the stamp of accurate observation and attention to detail.

Although primarily an Atlas, the value of the work is enhanced by the text, especially of Parts I., II., and III., in which the authors discuss very thoroughly the clinical characteristics of Syphilitic Chancres and Soft Sores, and apportion the true weight which one may attach to the various signs and symptoms. The value of combining clinical observation and clinical pathology is emphasised, and the advice given in Part III. to "Be very certain of your diagnosis before telling a patient that he suffers from Soft Sores only" is a word of warning which cannot be too often repeated and emphasised.

The whole work is characterised throughout by thoroughness, and the authors have succeeded in giving to the profession a work which contains the essentials to enable the student and the inexperienced practitioner to establish an accurate and early diagnosis, and provides the expert with a remarkably complete and accurate record of the primary and cutaneous lesions of syphilis. The authors are to be congratulated on the success of their work.

*Malaria at Home and Abroad.* By S. P. *James, M.D., D.P.H.* (Lieut.-Col. I.M.S., retired). Pp. xi + 234, with 1 map and 104 illustrations. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd. 1920. Price 25s.

This is a helpful summary of the present state of our knowledge of the malaria problem. A brief description of the three specific pathogenic agents is followed by an account of the characters and life-history of mosquitoes, and keys are given to the species of Anopheles recorded from the principal geographical areas. In discussing the habits of mosquitoes, the author emphasises the importance of "malarious houses." The explanation of these seems to be that a mosquito, which has lived long enough to become infective, has remained for some weeks in such a house or has returned to it after every flight. This appears to be particularly the case in regard to *Anopheles maculipennis* in England, and the evidence derived from a study of several instances is clearly set forth. The important factor in the malaria problem in Britain is the degree to which there is close and continuous association between malaria carrier, Anopheles, and susceptible persons, and the requisite degree of continuous association occurs in those houses which *Anopheles maculipennis* has selected as its resting-place. Evidence is adduced
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to show that in Kent there remain a few areas where endemic malaria still persists. Col. James deals admirably with the problems presented by a malaria survey in this country and in the tropics, and with measures of defence—use of quinine, screening, segregation of the healthy—and of attack—destruction of mosquitoes, discovery and treatment of all human cases and carriers, especially native children.

*War Against Tropical Disease.* By Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., M.D. Pp. 220, with 180 illustrations and 2 graphs. Published for the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research by Baillière, Tindall & Cox, London. 1920. Price 12s. 6d. net.

Of these seven lectures or sermons the first six have already appeared, but they have been brought up to date by the addition of notes. The sermons proclaim, in Dr Balfour’s vigorous style and with numerous apt references, the pre-eminent value of a study of hygiene and related factors in the war against tropical disease. The heads of the seven sermons are respectively (1) some aspects of tropical sanitation, with special reference to Khartoum where Dr Balfour carried out notable pioneer work; (2) tropical problems in the New World; (3) preventive inoculation against typhoid and cholera; (4) the medical entomology of Salonika; (5) sanitary and insanitary make-shifts in the eastern war-areas, based upon the author’s observations in Egypt, Salonika, Mesopotamia, Palestine, and elsewhere; (6) the problem of hygiene in Egypt—the three chapters of this sermon contain the substance of the three Chadwick lectures for the year 1919, and in the last of these Dr Balfour comments on the chief findings of the Commission, of which he was President, appointed to inquire into the future organisation and work of the Public Health Department, and he appeals for a speedy realisation by this country of its responsibilities so that there may be vigorous attack upon the forces of disease which hold in thrall “the gateway to the East”; (7) the palm from a sanitary standpoint.

*The Radiography of the Chest.* Vol. I. Pulmonary Tuberculosis. By Walker Overend, M.A., M.D., B.Sc. Pp. 119, with 108 illustrations. London: William Heinemann, Ltd. 1920. Price 17s. 6d. net.

This book will be welcomed as a valuable contribution to a subject in which the diagnosis is greatly enhanced by radiography. The author briefly describes the general principles of X-ray technique necessary to chest work, and then proceeds to enumerate the types of pulmonary tuberculosis, and gives records of a number of instructive cases. He does so with a courage of his convictions to a degree rare in writers of text-books, and though somewhat dogmatic in his
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assertions, his statements are supported by an extensive and intimate knowledge of a complex subject. The style is clear and forcible and most of the reproductions are excellent. The volume can be heartily recommended to radiologist and physician alike seeking the correct interpretation of pulmonary opacities.

*Atlas for Electro-Diagnosis and Therapeutics.* By F. Miramond de Laroquette, M.D., and translated by the late Miss Mary Gregson Cheetham. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1920. Pp. xvi. and 180, with 69 plates and figures. Price 15s. net.

It would be difficult to find a more compact yet comprehensive review of the subject this little book deals with. The method of procedure for arriving at a correct electro-diagnosis of the peripheral motor nerve system is given in a clear, terse, and concise manner. The chief feature of this publication is a series of very helpful anatomical plates, some of which are from radiographs of the living.

*The Mental Hygiene of Childhood.* By William A. White. Pp. xvi. + 193. London: William Heinemann. 1919. Price 6s. net. (Mind and Health Series).

This is a small book containing an account of the psychology of childhood from the Freudian standpoint. It is not badly done, and is quite free from offence, but it suffers from the same disability as do most attempts to reduce Freud's teaching to a popular form. The difficulty is, as it seems to the reviewer, that while to one already conversant with modern psychology the statements are largely acceptable and comprehensible, it is very doubtful whether any one approaching the subject for the first time could intelligently accept the views here brought forward, and still less could he apply them to the upbringing of children. There is, especially in the earlier chapters, a great deal of platitude, and there is not much practical application of the doctrines taught.