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Extra Pharmacopoeia, Vol. II. (1929). By W. HARRISON MARTINDALE, Ph.D., Ph.C., F.C.S. Pp. 759 + xxxviii. London: H. K. Lewis & Co. Price 22s. 6d.

We have received for review the second volume of the nineteenth edition of Martindale and Westcott's Extra Pharmacopoeia. This book is such a well-established favourite of the medical profession that it is unnecessary to do more than indicate some of the outstanding features of the new edition. The data compiled in this second volume are gathered from a very wide variety of sciences, and revision of each successive edition of this work must entail searching a correspondingly wide range of medical literature.

The following are some of the more important subjects concerning which a considerable amount of new information is given in the present edition. Radium and radiology, vitamins, distribution of iodine in water and soil, recent legislation on bleaching of flour, food preservatives and dangerous drugs. In addition there is a large amount of information about many new drugs.

The new edition fully maintains the old-established reputation of the work for providing the medical practitioner with a convenient and up-to-date summary of recent advances in medical science.

Common Infections of the Female Urethra and Cervix. By FRANK KIDD, M.D., F.R.C.S., and MALCOLM SIMPSON, B.A., D.P.H. Second Edition. Pp. 197, with 16 illustrations. London: Oxford University Press. 1929. Price 8s. 6d.

This book is the outcome of the author's experience in the Genito-Urinary Department of the London Hospital, where a section is in operation for the recognition and treatment of gonorrhcea in women and children. The experiences were published in the first edition of this work some five years ago, and the methods in use at that date have so satisfied the authors that no alteration in the original chapters has been made in this new edition. A few additions have been included, notably those on recent advances in technique, and on methods for bringing about a more rapid cure.

Gonococcal infection of the whole female generative tract is dealt with, and details of treatment are given separately for the acute and chronic cases. It is interesting to note that the authors employ "flavine" extensively for local application, and that they pin little faith to the use of vaccines.

Gonococcal arthritis is dealt with in a separate chapter, the most arresting part of which is the plea for encouraging active movement of the joints, even in the acute stage of the disability.
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The results show an amazingly small percentage in the incidence of salpingitis in those cases of gonorrhoea submitted to early treatment. The value of this finding cannot be too strongly emphasised, though other clinics do not find the same low incidence to obtain.

The methods advocated throughout the book must be regarded as satisfactory, for the results have been good; but the recorded instances of "lightning cures" must not be taken too seriously. Such a case, for example, is recorded on page 103. The inclusion, at the end of the text, of a list of all the books and papers published by Mr Kidd, does not add to the merit of the book—such inclusion would appear unnecessary. For clear description of detail the work can be commended; the advice is generally sound, and above all, attention is focused on the early treatment of a common and often neglected condition.

The Treatment of the Common Disorders of Digestion. By J. L. Kantor. Second Edition. Pp. 297, with 88 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1929. Price 25s.

Three new chapters, dealing with the common anomalies of the colon, the "irritable colon" and the "organic diarrhoeas," and a number of new sections throughout the text have been introduced into the second edition of this book. The text is somewhat uneven, for while due consideration is given to some subjects, others, for example dysentery, are dealt with in a perfunctory manner. Throughout the book too little attempt is made to explain therapeutic measures in the light of the fundamental disorder, be it organic or functional. The use of terms such as zwieback, molds, salt crackers and squash, the designation of measure-glasses as graduates, and the scanty references to any literature except that published in the U.S.A., suggest that the book is designed primarily for American readers.

Bodily Changes in Pain, Hunger, Fear, and Rage. By Walter B. Cannon, M.D., Professor of Physiology, Harvard University. Second Edition. Pp. xvi+404, illustrated. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1929. Price 12s. 6d.

The second edition of Professor Cannon's book, Bodily Changes in Pain, Hunger, Fear, and Rage, will be welcomed by all students of physiology and psychology. It embodies the results of extended research by Professor Cannon and his collaborators and others working in the same field, with a critical discussion of the theories advanced in interpretation of their findings.

The correlation of mental and physical processes is a matter of more than academic interest. It is of practical importance that those primarily concerned with the physical aspect of bodily function should appreciate the delicacy of adjustment in the mechanism of emotional
stimulation and response. Nature's method of meeting an emergency may be supplemented and reinforced, but there is a more fundamental lesson to be learned from these observations. Professor Cannon, after reviewing the purely scientific significance of his discoveries, propounds a new yet venerable philosophy which should commend itself to those who desire to see their country peopled by men of vigour, quick in action, but controlled. Man cannot change his nature, and requires an outlet for his emotions; Professor Cannon suggests an alternative to the old method of expression—war—and his argument is worthy of the consideration of those concerned with the social and economic problems of to-day.

_Cerebrospinal Fluid in Health and in Disease._ Third Edition. By Abraham Levinson, B.S., M.D. Pp. 386, with 88 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1929. Price 35s.

In the preface to the first edition of his book the author expressed the hope that his work might stimulate even one zealous student to help to solve some of the problems presented. Ten years have elapsed since that time and in the interval many research workers in the whole wide field of neurology must have found help and inspiration in the pages of Dr. Levinson's book. Indeed so many and so important have been the advances made in our knowledge, not only of the behaviour of the cerebrospinal fluid in health, but also of its variations in disease, that the author has found it already necessary to publish a third edition.

The value of a work is always greatly enhanced when the reader realises that the author has at his command not only a large experience but also a highly creditable record in the scientific study of his subject, and in this monograph one soon appreciates that the author is entitled to dogmatise. Nevertheless, his dogmatism is always tempered by a keen sense of the worth of work done by others.

In this edition the chapters have been re-arranged; the clinical sections being separated from the theoretical, thus presenting the whole subject in a more easily readable form.

_Outlines of Zoology._ By J. Arthur Thomson, M.A., LL.D. Eighth Edition. Pp. xxviii + 972, with 528 illustrations. London: Humphrey Milford. 1929. Price 21s.

This book has for long been recognised as a most trustworthy textbook on the subject. It is a volume which deals with zoology in a very systematic and orderly manner. The eighth edition has maintained the same high standard of its predecessors and has been brought up to date and enlarged. In this edition the physiological aspect has been more fully treated and more space has been devoted to the structure and development of certain types, such as the dipnoi, which
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were only briefly discussed in previous editions. Many new diagrams have been added.

This volume can be recommended with every confidence to students and those interested in the subject, both on account of the subject matter and the lucid manner in which it is presented.

*Applied Pharmacology.* By A. J. Clark, M.C., B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Pp. xi + 529, with 65 illustrations. Third Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1929. Price 15s.

In the third edition Professor Clark has taken the opportunity of revision here and there, and also of adding two new chapters on the pharmacology of the skin and on inorganic metabolism. Little need be said of the unusual merits of this book as a guide to the student and practitioner of medicine. It combines methodical arrangement with clearness and brevity of statement, and brings before the mind of the student the different sides of the problem which are involved when drugs are used to remedy the disorders of the body in disease. This problem is at least twofold—an intricate mechanism whose working is in disorder, and the action of the drug in restoring this mechanism. Professor Clark has followed strictly the logical order, obviously called for by the conditions of this problem; each chapter begins with a description of the underlying mechanism involved, whether mechanical or chemical, and of its normal and abnormal working, and then describes the drugs that are known to influence this mechanism, the principal preparations of the drugs, and concludes with a brief note of the important literature.

The book throughout and in every part shows how modern pharmacology and therapeutics rest upon the basis of physiology. The science of pharmacology at its present stage is in the difficult position that, while our knowledge of the human machine in action is both minute and accurate, it is not easy to put on this foundation the superstructure of therapeutics, an ancient art whose rules and practice have been largely empirical. Much of this superstructure has already disappeared from the art of medicine, and in the pages of this book the reader's mind cannot fail to be impressed with the very small part played by the majority of our drugs in the control of the disordered mechanisms of the body in disease. This book faces all these difficulties in the frankest and most scientific way, and nothing better has been written for the student and practitioner of medicine. It presents in a clear and condensed way the many elements which make up any problem of therapeutics, and by virtue of the logical order of its presentation, shows clearly both what we know and what we do not know. It is by the painful discovery of our ignorance that we advance in knowledge.

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