REVIEW.

Clinical Obstetrics. By Robert Jardine, M.D., M.R.C.S., F.F.P.S.G. Third Edition. London: Henry Kimpton. 1910.

The popularity of Clinical Obstetrics is sufficiently exemplified by the necessity for the publication of a third edition within seven years. The book has been much enlarged by the introduction of new matter, while many new illustrations have been added and others replaced. The photographs depicting forceps application and delivery deserve mention.

Special, and we would say valuable, features are the details of interesting cases, and Dr. Jardine acted wisely in answering former critics who objected to the number recorded by adding over fifty others. As the author says, "the work is one on clinical obstetrics, and it is impossible to teach clinically without cases."

The Practical Medicine Series. Vols. IV and V. General Editor: G. P. Head, M.D. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. 1909. (Glasgow: G. Gillies & Co., Agents.)

The Practical Medicine Series appears annually, and comprises ten volumes, each of which is devoted to a special branch of medicine or surgery. Gynaecology (Vol. IV) is edited by Professors Dudley and Von Bachelle, and Obstetrics (Vol. V) by Professor de Lee and Dr. Stowe. These editors have made a most judicious selection from American, British, and Continental journals, so that we can cordially recommend both volumes as accurately reflecting the previous year's progress both in research work and treatment.

Vol. IV contains an interesting résumé of Heineck's paper on accidental perforation of the uterus by instruments, which is instructive reading as showing that curettage is not the simple operation that too many practitioners regard it. In 154 tabulated cases there were 42 deaths, and in 17 of these cases where the perforated uterus was douched as well only 6 survived.

New operations have been devised for repair of the perineum, all of them of American origin, and worth noting.
The operations of ventrofixation and ventrosuspension seem rightly to be falling into disfavour, the round ligaments being utilised instead to correct backward displacements of the uterus.

There are also lengthy excerpts of papers relating to experimental work in the transplantation of the ovaries.

The most interesting part of Vol. V is that relating to the trend of operative midwifery. In Germany, extraperitoneal suprasymphysal Cæsarean section is apparently becoming more fashionable than pubiotomy, but for how long time will tell. In the same country Cæsarean section is growing more in favour for the treatment of placenta prævia, Kröning and Sellheim reporting 6 and 8 cases respectively with no maternal mortality, and only one premature child being lost. Both in America and Germany the use of the hysterectomyter in the treatment of placenta prævia has given much better results, especially for the child, than bipolar version. In America, Cæsarean section is limited to cases with a closed cervix. Immediate delivery is being more favoured as the proper procedure in eclampsia, and by so doing Zweifel has reduced his mortality from 32 to 15 per cent, and Bumm from 30 to 14 per cent.

The Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. By L. Emmett Holt, M.D. Fifth Edition. New York and London: Appleton & Co. 1909.

This work has gone through five editions in nine years, and the fact that it is only two years since the last edition appeared is ample proof of its excellence, and that it meets a most desired want. Excepting the large encyclopaedias on pediatrics, it is in our opinion perhaps the most valuable text-book on this branch of medicine. All aspects of the subject, excepting surgical diseases, are most interestingly and lucidly described and are treated of in great detail.

In this, the fifth edition, the sections on general tuberculosis, tubercular meningitis, cerebro-spinal meningitis, and acute poliomyelitis are those which have been specially revised, and they have all been more or less completely rewritten. In consequence of the recent epidemics of these two latter diseases in New York, much of our previous knowledge has been modified and much new information gained, all of which has been thoroughly utilised by the author in his treatment of these subjects. The chapter on general tuberculosis has
also been considerably altered, the recent methods of diagnosis by the ophthalmic and cutaneous reactions being minutely described, and the relative value of these different tests thoroughly discussed.

The work is profusely illustrated with plates (some coloured), diagrams, and charts, and is supplied with a very full index.

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*A Practical Treatise on Disease in Children.* By Eustace Smith, M.D. Third Edition. Edinburgh and London: William Green & Sons. 1909.

In the present edition of this well-known text-book on diseases of children many parts have been altered and much recent matter added. To make room for this, the parts dealing with morbid anatomy and pathology have been curtailing, without, however, taking from the original conception of the work.

The aim of the book is to provide a useful guide to the practitioner of medicine in dealing with children's ailments, and the claim is fully justified, both from the point of view of diagnosis and of treatment. Clinical pictures of actual cases are frequent, and throughout one gets the impression that the work is the product of the author's experience, and not a mere compilation.

Chapters are included dealing with the various exanthemata and skin diseases. The absence of illustrations is noticeable, but the want is not greatly felt on reading the text. In every way the book is one which we can cordially recommend.

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*Infant Feeding: A Practical Guide to the Artificial Feeding of Infants.* By J. S. Fowler, M.D., F.R.C.P.Edin. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1909.

The reputation of Dr. Fowler with regard to infant feeding is already an assured one, and in this manual the author more than maintains it. The work rests essentially on a scientific basis, and a reason is given for every step that is taken in the formation of a food for a child at various stages of its growth. This renders the book much more illuminative than a mere statement of facts, however important, which, unfortunately, is the criticism which can often be directed against works on this subject.
Beginning with the assumption that in certain circumstances a child is prevented from being breast-fed, Dr. Fowler lays it down as a general principle that any food presented to the child must at least have a close approximation to the composition of mothers' milk. First of all, as breast milk is sterile, so cows' milk given to a child should also be sterile. And as the success of infant feeding largely centres round the digestion of milk casein, the author postulates that the casein in the food should be so treated that, on its introduction into the child's stomach, a flocculent precipitate should be formed, which is easily acted upon by the hydrochloric acid and pepsin present in that organ, and assimilated without any strain on the digestive functions. Many other similar points might be taken up. Suffice it to say that it is a pleasure to read a book of this kind, and much valuable information is obtained from a careful perusal of its pages.

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The Medical Inspection of School Children. A Series of Lectures delivered at the West London Post-Graduate College. London: "The Medical Officer."

This little brochure consists of five lecture-demonstrations given at the West London Post-Graduate College. The first consists of the general scheme of inspection; the second treats of the examination of skin diseases; the third, of the examination of the eyes; the fourth, of the examination of the ear, nose, and throat; and the fifth, of the examination of the teeth.

To those interested in the medical inspection of school children, much valuable information of an essentially practical nature will be found in this brochure. The examination of children in the schoolroom is perhaps not such a simple matter as one might imagine, and a knowledge of child nature, with its caprices and inclinations, is essential to obtain satisfactory results. We have pleasure in recommending this brochure to those who are commencing this recently imposed duty of the profession.

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Medical Libraries, II, 1909. Reprinted from the Medical Record, 25th September, 1909. New York, U.S.A.

By the courtesy of the New York Academy of Medicine, we have received a copy of this interesting and useful reprint, which gives an account of over one hundred and fifty medical
libraries throughout the world. The introductory note may be quoted as giving a general idea of the aim of the work:—

"In the following list the name of the library is followed by the post office address, the name of the librarian, and the number of bound volumes. Corrections and communications concerning libraries, and applications for copies of the list (with stamp enclosed), may be addressed to the librarian of the New York Academy of Medicine. Libraries conducted in the interests of the profession, and those owned by medical societies, are represented here. Collections of medical works in general libraries, some of them very important, are omitted." As the materials for the list were obtained by correspondence, the information contained in it may be regarded as authoritative. Every medical library and every public library ought to secure a copy.

The Medical Annual: A Year-Book of Treatment and Practitioner's Index, 1909. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Limited.

The editor of this, the twenty-seventh volume of the Medical Annual, is again to be heartily congratulated on the production of what must now be considered an essential part of the practitioner's library. No other annual publication takes such a comprehensive view of the progress that has taken place in medicine and surgery during the year. The difficulty of including everything of importance to the practitioner, and yet avoiding an increase in the weight of the volume, has been overcome by using a thinner paper. The plates, of which there are 54, and the other illustrations are all first class. Altogether, to the practitioner, in those days of rapid advance in medicine, nothing can give a better outlook or more occasion for reflection than a careful perusal of the Annual.

Essentials of Medicine: A Text-Book of Medicine. By CHARLES PHILLIPS EMERSON, M.D. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company.

This book will be read with interest by many whose scientific training in medicine is meagre, as well as by those who have spent years of study in physiology and pathology. The author's attempt to treat the subject from the popular point-
of view has, we think, been attended with considerable success. It is at all times a difficult task to satisfy the trained student of medicine and the diligent lay observer, and we are obliged to state that Dr. Emerson's attempt is the most successful we have yet seen. It is open to grave doubt, however, whether a double-barrelled purpose like this can be truly fruitful of much benefit to both classes of readers. The layman who reads this book and understands it thoroughly is certainly on a higher plane of intelligence than most of his fellows. The book is in no sense of the term a "household physician," as it deals with the physiology of the body and the pathology of conditions rather than with treatment, though the latter is not overlooked. Nevertheless, we are forced to confess that reading this book has been a genuine pleasure, and its scientific worth has been in no way impaired by its popular exposition.

**A Manual of Medical Treatment.** By J. Burney Yeo, M.D., F.R.C.P., Raymond Crawfurd, M.A., M.D.Oxon., F.R.C.P., and E. Farquhar Buzzard, M.A., M.D.Oxon., F.R.C.P. Fourth Edition, in Two Volumes. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1909.

A work which is now in its fourth edition, and has had four reprints called for since the last publication in 1902, scarcely requires more to commend it. In this edition Dr. Crawfurd has undertaken the revision of the sections on digestive, circulatory, renal, and hepatic diseases, while Dr. Buzzard has revised that on nervous diseases. More prominence is given to serum therapy, and the results of recent investigations have been incorporated. There is an addition in all of 80 pages to the text, while a new feature is the printing of the general index at the end of each volume. Otherwise, the work appears in the same form as previous editions, and is one which can be recommended with confidence.

**Publications of the Research Defence Society, 1908-1909.**

London: Macmillan & Co., Limited. 1909.

This volume, containing a selection of the papers read before the Research Defence Society, with a reprint of the address delivered at the inauguration of the Society by Lord Cromer,
has been well worth publication. The latter forms a more than usually weighty introduction, not only owing to the recognised standing of its author, but also to the deep sympathy to which it gives expression. The most important document is the verbatim reprint (occupying 82 pages) of the evidence and cross-examination of Lord-Judge Fletcher Moulton before the Royal Commission on Vivisection. Given with all the weight of a judicial finding by a master in the art, it forms the most practical and philosophical defence of medical research and vivisection which we have discovered. The other papers contain the practical aspects of the subject, and of these Professor Starling's "On the Use of Dogs in Scientific Experiments"; "Cancer," by Dr. Bashford; "Yellow Fever and Malaria," by Professor Osler; and "Malta Fever," by Sir David Bruce, must be specially mentioned. This volume should be in the hands of medical men and laymen alike who wish to know of this important question from first sources.

Transactions of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the American Proctologic Society, held at Chicago, June, 1908. This little volume contains a number of papers on various lesions of the rectum, and, while some of the communications are scanty, the book is not without interest.

Green's Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine and Surgery. Vol. X: Thiersch—Zymotic. Edinburgh and London: William Green & Sons. 1909. This, the tenth, volume brings the work to a conclusion. It contains 1,059 subject-headings, of which sixty-four are articles of more than 1,000 words in each. Morbid conditions of the uterus are considered at some length in a series of articles, and pathological changes in the urine also occupy considerable space. There is a good article on tumours of the skin, and another on diseases of the urachus. The article on vaccination is interesting reading, and that dealing with vice should be read by every practitioner. In the article on injuries of the wrist-joint we have a very good account of Colles's fracture.

Space forbids our mentioning some other articles; but we
cannot close this brief notice without expressing to editor and publishers our sense of the indebtedness of the profession to them for placing in its hands such a useful and instructive work of reference.

Modern Problems in Psychiatry. By Ernesto Lugaro, University of Modena. Translated by David Orr, M.D., and R. G. Rows, M.D. With a Foreword by T. S. Clouston, M.D., LL.D. Manchester: The University Press. 1909.

In this book, as is explained in the author's preface, an attempt is made to draw up a programme of the psychiatric work of to-day, and to give some hint regarding the programme of to-morrow.

The volume is well printed in clear type. The translation is felicitous and smooth, and a foreword by Dr. Clouston gives added interest.

In a general introduction, Lugaro traces the history of psychiatry, points out the difficulties of psychiatric problems, the prejudices which hinder the work of the investigator, and the wide knowledge necessary for research. The author justifies a many-sided activity displayed by young alienists at the present time. He holds that although it sometimes carries with it the reproach of studying everything except psychiatry, and of analysing everything except the patient, the mere study of psychiatry, of diseases of the mind, although necessary, is of itself futile and sterile. Alienists are bound to leave their own field, fashion and solve for themselves their own special problems in other sciences; only in this way can they contribute to the creation of a complete psychiatry.

An interesting and enlightening chapter is that concerned with physiological problems, in which several fields of research are pointed out, particularly that relating to aphasias and kindred disorders. These subjects have been studied largely from the anatomico-pathological point of view, and have so widened our conception of the mechanism of language as to give rise to an urgent necessity for a more thorough analysis in the field of psychological examination.

The results and suggestions gained by purely anatomical studies form perhaps the most striking chapter in the book. If our anatomical knowledge was complete, we could deduce from the structure of a brain not only the size, form, and structure of the animal to which it belonged, but also the environment in which the animal lived, its habits, and the
activity it was capable of exhibiting. A short summary of the history of the conception that the brain cortex is the particular organ of psychic activity is given. The author pays much attention to Flechsig's experiments and researches. It seems, however, to have escaped his notice altogether that much of importance has been done in this particular field by Campbell and Shaw Bolton.

For the anatomical problems in psychiatry it is necessary to have not only normal morphological data, but also objective demonstration of the changes in nutrition which affect the nerve elements, and which depend on causes absolutely analogous to those usually injurious to the functional and anatomical integrity of every other organ of the body.

The future of the pathogenetic work is mainly concerned with an attempt to make a fundamental distinction between primary and secondary mental disturbances, and their relation to coarse circumscribed destructive lesions and microscopical destructive lesions of the cerebral cortex and their effects.

In a chapter devoted to the discussion of etiological problems, much attention is given to toxic and toxæmic conditions, although the author passes in review all the determining factors in insanity, including psychic and social causes, predisposition and anomaly, degeneration and heredity. In relation to heredity, Darwin's theory of pangenesis, and Galeotti's theory of the Lamarckian factor are dealt with seriatim.

Multifarious classification has disturbed the author, as it has influenced every other alienist who has put pen to paper. Anxious to have a physio-pathological interpretation of mental syndromes, he is conscious of the gulf which separates these from ordinary disease conditions; at the same time he recognises the important work that alienists have been doing of late years in this particular field, especially that of Tanzi in infantile cerebropathy. No doubt in Lugaro's opinion a difference in symptomatology may suggest that research should be made for corresponding differences in the fields of pathogenesis and etiology, in the same way as differences in anatomico-pathological findings may direct attention to symptomatic differences which had previously escaped notice. Morbid pictures generally become better defined when they are based, not on psychological observations only, but when the close affinity of the origin of mechanism which obtains in the most diverse syndromes is recognised.

The practical problems, which, with a slight concluding note, complete the work, consist mainly of an argument on
the duties of civil society—to protect those suffering from mental diseases, to maintain on a high plane the bonds of social unity of interests against misfortune, and to respect every feeling of sympathy, which constitutes the integral part of that treasure of altruistic feelings, and without which no society could continue in progress. With respect to the treatment of the insane, Lugaro holds that the asylums most badly managed are those of Belgium and Spain, which are governed by priests. In the asylum of Cienpozuelas, near Madrid, administrated by monks and nuns, there is only one doctor, who is not an alienist, and who must limit his attention to the treatment of pneumonia, enteritis, and other intercurrent diseases, while the priests provide for the treatment of mental aberration by using every means of coercion known to man. As regards the régime of asylums, and still more with reference to the prophylaxis of insanity and of crime, and the treatment of criminals, any future development must necessarily be the concern, not only of the alienist and of the general practitioner, but of all society.

The esteem in which Professor Lugaro is held among alienists, as an accurate and accomplished investigator of psychiatric problems, will be an inducement to a wide circle to peruse this volume, and it is no exaggeration to say that one rises from its reading with increased enthusiasm and manifest profit.

Röntgen Rays and Electro-Therapeutics, with Chapters on Radium and Phototherapy. By Mihran Krikor Kassabian, M.D. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company.

"The object of this book is to present clearly and concisely the more important facts pertaining to electro-therapeutics and the Röntgen rays." It is a well got up and beautifully illustrated work, running to over 500 pages, and the author is to be congratulated on the success which has attended his efforts. The major part of the book is devoted to the Röntgen rays, less than a third being given to all the other agents. After an interesting historical sketch comes the usual description of apparatus and of the elementary principles of electricity and magnetism. This is followed by the section on the various electric modalities—static, galvanic, high frequency currents, &c. The treatment by these is given in a very general way in a chapter on "Application in Diseased Conditions." The author gives the results of others, mainly
without comment. While he thus seems to free himself from responsibility, we think it is a pity that some of these results should appear without remark. The chapter is wanting in definiteness; for example, under "Nephritis" we read, "Rockwell reported five cases of nephritis treated by electricity, four of which recovered. Treatment covered a period of from two to eighteen months. The technique consists in the employment of a high tension faradic current, and also of the use of the static wave current, the latter being the more preferable." Such a statement, it seems to us, conveys very little meaning. This is perhaps the weakest part of an otherwise excellent work.

The section on x-rays is exceedingly interesting, and will well repay most careful study. The methods of dosage and protection both of patient and operator are discussed at great length, and a chapter is devoted to the medico-legal aspect of the subject.

That the dangerous nature of the agent is fully recognised we may gather from the statement made on p. 407. After naming six "from among the more prominent workers who have perished," he says "the number of operators who have been disfigured, maimed, and injured would form a deplorable list of tremendous proportions." Dr. Kassabian strongly condemns the practice of having x-rays used by any other than medical men.

With regard to the treatment of carcinomata and sarcomata, the author instances apparent cures reported by many writers in which the diagnosis had been confirmed by microscopic examination. For himself, however, he says, "all of my cases have ended fatally."

There are chapters on radium and on light treatment. At the close of the book is an appendix giving roughly the technique of some thirty Röntgen therapists. There is a full index. We confidently recommend the work as a reliable exposition of the subject.

**Handbook of Electricity in Medicine.** By Dr. W. H. Guilleminot, Paris. Translated by W. Deane Butcher, M.R.C.S. London: Rebman, Limited.

This book contains about 600 pages, and is divided into three parts—the first, which occupies 180 pages, is devoted to physics and technique; the second deals with the physiological effects of electricity and other physical agents; and
the third is the medical portion of the book, and occupies almost half the volume.

All three parts have the great virtue (sometimes wanting in books on medical electricity) of being carefully written, and a large amount of exact information is given. For example, in discussing the action of the continuous current, such data are given as enable the operator to determine definitely when exhibiting a drug by the ionic method the amount that will be absorbed during the seance. In the third section, the author does not follow the usual order of giving under each electric modality or agent the diseases amenable to treatment by it. He discusses electro-diagnosis, radio-diagnosis, and treatment together in the chapter dealing with each separate disease. It is doubtful whether the book is improved thereby. The advocates for the various forms of treatment in the different diseases are named in the text. The work is to be recommended as an excellent guide on the subject of electrotherapeutics.

**Diagnosis of Small-pox.** By T. F. Ricketts, M.D., B.Sc.Lond., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Illustrated by Photographs by J. B. Byles, M.B., B.C.Cantab., F.R.C.S.Eng., D.P.H. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1908.

This book belongs to a class which are specially valuable. When a physician or surgeon, with ability and power of observation, writes on a subject which he has made his own, whether the whole range of the subject be treated or not, the resulting book is likely to be of permanent value. In this class Dr. Ricketts' discussion of the diagnosis of small-pox must, we think, be placed. He approaches the subject without any special consideration of previous descriptions, and discusses it in the light of his exceptionally large personal experience. Some symptoms he makes of special importance. He gives much more space to the distribution of the eruption, and lends more weight to it than has hitherto been usual, and his remarks upon this seem in general well founded. Of the course of the eruption he also gives an excellent description, and of the aberrant forms there is a large series of plates. He separates clearly, as is not always done, the symptoms due to the toxæmic fever from those due to the eruptive fever, and his teaching regarding hæmorrhagic small-pox in this respect is in accord with that of the late Professor R. S. Thomson, of Glasgow.
In the concluding chapters, he discusses the differential diagnosis from chicken-pox, syphilis, and the pustular dermatoses. A chapter of value is that on vaccination as a factor in diagnosis, and he mentions that there are some points, such as the persistence of pigmentation after vaccination, not sufficiently known. With regard to vaccination after the exposure to small-pox, his experience is wholly in agreement with that of Glasgow, in that, after the efflorescence is completed, the patient is wholly insusceptible to vaccination.

This book is one which should be in the hands of all who have to deal with small-pox administratively, for it is not to everyone that the opportunity for seeing large numbers of cases of small-pox is afforded, and when a suitable description, with correspondingly selected illustrations, such as is afforded by this book, is available, the excuse of ignorance of the rarer varieties of the disease should receive little sympathy. With regard to the illustrations specially, they are on the whole as good as such can be, and as far as we have been able to judge give an almost complete picture of the disease.

The Renal Function in Urinary Surgery. By J. W. Thomson Walker, M.B., C.M. Edin., F.R.C.S. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1908.

As explained by the author in the preface, this book contains both a clinical study of the present means of estimating the renal function in surgical diseases of the urinary organs, and a discussion of the cases to which such methods are applicable.

In the first part of the book the estimation of the total renal function is under consideration, whereas the second part is devoted to the estimation of the function of one kidney.

Throughout the whole book the subject is treated in a thoroughly scientific spirit, great importance being laid on the details of each investigation. Chapters IV and V in Part I call for special praise, as in them is given a masterly description of the value of the test of the elimination of various substances by the kidneys. The author combines in a happy way the diagnostic uses of the various physiological, pathological, and clinical examinations.

There are excellent chapters on the cystoscope and its various uses—viz., cystoscopic examination of the bladder itself and of the ureteric openings, as well as detailed descriptions of the operation of catheterisation of the ureters and the other methods of separation of the urine of each kidney.
The book is well illustrated, there being many plates (macroscopic and microscopic), illustrations in the text (mostly of instruments), and clinical charts.

We have every confidence in recommending this book both to the specialist and to the general practitioner.

Injuries of Nerves and Their Treatment. By James Sherrin, F.R.C.S. Eng. London: Nisbet & Co., Limited. 1908.

While not claiming to be an exhaustive account of the subject, this manual is intended as a guide to the examination and treatment of cases of nerve injury. The first few chapters include a brief description of the various kinds of nerve injuries, and of the symptoms resulting from complete and incomplete division of a nerve. Then follows a very careful investigation into the methods of examination of nerve injuries, with an exhaustive discussion on the differential diagnosis of lesions of spinal cord and roots, of lesions of motor and sensory nerves, of nerve lesions from hysterical manifestations, and from ischemic contracture.

The treatment of nerve injuries and the methods of recovery are well described.

The book is well illustrated by excellent plates, and can be most heartily recommended.

Lectures on the Pathology of Cancer. By Charles Powell White, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Manchester: Sherratt & Hughes. 1908.

These Lectures were delivered in the University of Manchester in June and July, 1908, in connection with the Pilkington Cancer Research Fund.

The author has presented us with a systematically arranged and thoughtful account of cancer, and also of tumours in general. The whole book is worth reading, but Part III is specially interesting. In this part the causation of cancer is dealt with, and the author takes us into an interesting field of speculation. Speculation, however, it remains, and our ignorance is not much enlightened. In the succeeding part we have a rational consideration of the bearings of pathology on treatment. This subject is well put, and is an excellent
exposition of the principles of what to-day must be looked on as sound treatment.

The volume is illustrated by upwards of 30 plates, and is a distinct contribution to the literature of the subject.

The Natural History of Cancer, with Special Reference to its Causation and Prevention. By W. Roger Williams, F.R.C.S. London: William Heinemann. 1908.

The author in his work has gathered together and made a full digest of the various topics in connection with the study of cancer, and reviewed them in the light of his own experience. Although we cannot agree in entirety with his views, we must congratulate him on the large accumulation of material and facts which he has brought forward, and with the way he has handled such to prove his case.

The subject is considered under the headings of distribution and incidence; the increase of the disease; its relationship to tumours in plants and animals; the genesis of malignant tumours; and the experimental study and theories of the causation of such. The influence of inflammation and other factors in their causation, and of age, sex, family history, &c., are all considered.

The writer uses his statistics, evidences, and arguments to support his view "that cancer is one of a small group of maladies which has steadily increased, and this in spite of progressive diminution in the general death-rate, with other signs of material prosperity." He believes "that the tendency to cancer may be increased by unsuitable modes of living and vice versa. That the lesser frequency of the disease in tropical zones must be regarded as associated with the frugal living, more vegetarian diet, and low consumption of meat of such peoples. Indigence, insufficiency of food, overcrowding, and bad sanitation, which favour the generation of most diseases, especially tuberculous and contagious affections, exercise no such power over the incidence of cancer, which flourishes most under just the opposite condition, and that the spread of the disease in communities is proportionate to the material prosperity of the people—that it is a disease essentially of the well-to-do, and more prevalent in the rich."

He regards this change as closely associated with the conditions arising during the nineteenth century—the change from an open-air existence and dependence on agricultural
pursuits to urbanisation and industrialism, with better wages, good food, and good sanitation. "And when there is added other factors, such as deficient exercise and probably a lack of sufficient fresh vegetable food in persons whose cellular metabolism is perverted, there may thus be excited in parts of the body where vital processes are still capable of rejuvenescence such excessive and disorderly cellular proliferation as may eventuate in cancer." He regards the genesis of tumours to be dependent on two factors—the cells whence they originate, and the force which regulates their development. In connection with the former, the writer has a leaning towards "the rest" theory. "So long as the growing cells are subject to their normal restraining influence they develop as a regular and orderly whole, but when under pathological conditions the restraining influence is modified or withdrawn, the cells grow and multiply more rapidly, and that hyperplasia and not inflammation is the starting-point of every neoplasm." With regard to the latter factor—the force or unknown agent which causes malignant proliferation—he considers there is no specific, but that any kind of stimulus capable of exciting the local cells to undue proliferative activity may suffice; and, in his opinion, such stimuli as serve as nuclear pabulum should probably be placed in the first rank.

Apart from the writer's views as to the causation and prevention of the disease, we can recommend the book on account of the large amount of information in connection with this disease which it contains, and which makes it a valuable work of reference.

Otitic Cerebellar Abscess. By Heinrich Neumann, University of Vienna. Translated by Richard Lake, F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis. 1909.

Surgeons and otologists in this country are indebted to Mr. Lake for this excellent translation of Dr. Neumann's work on cerebellar abscess. Dr. Neumann's name is now known throughout the whole world of otology, chiefly through his valuable contributions upon infective labyrinthitis and the intracranial complications of ear disease. In the present brochure Dr. Neumann has still further enhanced his reputation.

Within the compass of 156 pages, he gives an exhaustive and illuminating account of our present knowledge regarding cerebellar abscess, including details of 165 cases, mostly...
collected from literature, but many observed personally by him in the University clinique in Vienna. Dr. Neumann emphasises the frequency of labyrinthine suppuration as the immediate cause of cerebellar abscess occurring in connection with a *chronic* purulent middle-ear affection (in nearly 44 per cent), whilst rarely, if ever, is labyrinthine suppuration the cause of cerebellar abscess in connection with an *acute* purulent inflammation of the middle ear. A proper appreciation of this very important point seems to form the keynote to the successful treatment of cerebellar abscess. The pages devoted to nystagmus, as it occurs in infectious labyrinthitis and cerebellar abscess, are most valuable and authoritative, coming, as they do, almost from the fountainhead of our knowledge of this important clinical sign.

The chapter on the operative treatment of cerebellar abscess is particularly good. The following gives a brief sketch of the principles which guide the author in treating these cases:

1. In cases of assumed or positively diagnosed cerebellar abscess not presenting symptoms of great urgency, Dr. Neumann, previous to operation, ascertains by means of the functional tests (the presence and character of nystagmus) whether the labyrinth is intact at the seat of suppuration. *(a) When the labyrinth is found to be intact,* he holds that the radical mastoid operation should first be performed, with extensive exposure of the dura mater between the sigmoid sinus and the external semicircular canal. The dura mater may then be incised, and the cerebellum explored either immediately or after a delay of a day or two, depending upon the findings at operation and the symptoms present. *(b) When the labyrinth is the seat of suppuration,* then, in addition to thorough cleaning out of the middle-ear spaces, a labyrinthotomy should be done. This allows of very extensive exposure of dura mater, through which the cerebellum may easily be opened. In doubtful cases a few days' delay, during which the behaviour of the nystagmus is carefully observed before opening the dura mater, may definitely confirm or negative the diagnosis of abscess.

2. In cases where dangerously urgent symptoms exist, Dr. Neumann trephines immediately upon the suppurring focus in the brain.

This small volume is well worthy of a place in the library of every otologist and surgeon.