As regards local treatment, many methods have been advocated. Undoubtedly the application of the galvano-cautery, which was first suggested by Hack, still holds a foremost place. It is advisable to use the edge of the burner rather than the flat surface, and to burn a deep furrow along the whole length of the inferior turbinated body, and thus as it were to tack the mucous membrane down to the bone.

Watson Williams (Rhinology: A Text-Book of Diseases of the Nose, &c., 1910) recommends spraying the nose with a solution of biniodide of mercury (1 in 10 or 1 in 20). This treatment has proved highly successful in his experience in many cases, but the pain following the injection is sometimes so great that morphia has to be given. If applied at the onset of symptoms of hay fever the patient will sometimes remain free for the whole season.

O. J. Stein (Laryngoscope, September 1908) has recommended anaesthetising the nasal branches of the fifth nerve by the injection of alcohol into the nasal cavities. The nasal branch and, if necessary, the branches of the spheno-palatine ganglion are treated. The injections are made by a syringe fitted with two different needles. The first, a straight needle, is inserted into the tissues just posterior to the nasal bone, that is, the anterior extremity of the cribiform plate. The second needle is longer and has a curved tip, and is introduced at the posterior end and lower border of the middle turbinated body. Five drops of alcohol are used at each injection.

Yonge (Lancet, vol. ii. 1909) has had good results by resecting the nasal nerve.

Muck (Münch. med. Wochenschr., No. 29, 1909) advocates the application of cold water by means of a spray to the back of the neck.

Semon recommends constitutional treatment by gradually increasing doses of arsenic.

In cases of paroxysmal rhinorrhea Waggett (Brit. Med. Journ., 26th November 1910) has been in the habit of administering calcium lactate internally, sometimes combined with magnesium, and has been successful in the majority of his cases.
called to his aid all the devices of the literary artist, and he has laid bare many of the weak points of our profession. His theme is that prevention is better than cure, and he argues forcibly for the establishment of a National Medical Service whose efforts shall be directed to the care of the health rather than to the cure of disease.

His criticism of our present hospital system must be admitted to be largely true, and his comparison of a charitable with a poor law hospital (actual examples under pseudonyms) involves a serious condemnation of the latter. Not that the former gets off uncriticised: there are very few members of our profession of whatever rank who will not wince now and again in reading Dr. Moore’s book.

A very interesting chapter on the Great White Plague contains the startling propositions that “had Koch’s tuberculin treatment been a success we should probably be suffering now from more prevalence of tuberculosis, simply because we should have still more neglected precautions and preventive measures than we have done;” and “the possession of a most powerful specific remedy for a given disease, with our present-day modes of practice and employing it, may produce little or no effect upon the death-rate from the disease.” And he makes out a very good case, for he takes chlorosis, syphilis, diphtheria, and malaria, for each of which there are remedies deserving the name of specific, and asks whether these remedies have done anything to diminish the number of cases. The two which have been most successfully dealt with are chlorosis and malaria, and these have been diminished by methods of prevention. The book makes a most timeous appearance, and we cordially commend its perusal to all who are interested—and who is not?—in the problems which confront the profession to-day.

Clinical Pathology in Practice. By Thomas J. Horder, B.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. i.-x., 1-216. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1910. Price 7s. 6d. net.

A sentence from the Introduction of this book serves well enough to suggest its purport—“To change the physician for the pathologist can but end in disaster; but to add to sound clinical observations the findings of the microscope and the test-tube sums up all the notable advances made in medicine since the days of Laennec.” Some of our profession, the happy possessors of a store of personal experiences and impressions, may be disposed to undervalue laboratory methods; others fall into the opposite mistake of relying too largely on them, and of asking from clinical pathology more than it (as yet) can give. The volume before us is an admirable corrective to both these errors, so evenly does the author hold the scales between the newer and the older ways. The object of Dr. Horder’s book is twofold: first, to describe in a practical manner all the really useful pathological tests; second,
to show that these methods may be almost as conveniently employed in private as in hospital practice. The latter function we regard as not less important than the former, because undoubtedly there is often some disinclination to extend to private patients the benefits of the more precise methods which modern clinical medicine has at her disposal. Proceeding on these lines the author discusses the bacteriology and cytology of the blood, the sputum, and the fluids of the body, the feces, the specific tuberculin tests, complement-fixation tests, and vaccine therapy. Any reader with even a little personal knowledge will recognise from the way in which the methods are described that Dr. Horder, though an expert, has not forgotten the difficulties a beginner meets with. As an instance, we cite the technique of blood puncture, in which, *inter alia*, we are told to direct the needle against the blood current, so that blood may flow from it without suction. The point is obvious when attention is directed to it, yet seven out of eight beginners will perform the puncture in the opposite direction. Space forbids a discussion of all Dr. Horder's facts, but, since few are open to criticism, this is of little moment. Good features of the book are the distinctions drawn between methods which may and ought to be employed by the practitioner himself and those for which he must apply to a laboratory, and between "bad" reports which contain inferences, often unjustifiable, and "good" reports which give only facts, leaving deductions therefrom to the clinician. Taking it all over, Dr. Horder's manual seems to us much the most useful work of the kind which has yet appeared, and we hope that it will have a long and successful career.

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*Disease of the Pancreas: Its Cause and Nature.* By Eugene L. Opie. Second Edition. Pp. 381. Philadelphia and London: Lippincott Company. 1910. Price 15s. net.

The writer of this book is recognised as one of the foremost authorities on the subject of disease of the pancreas, and his own observations have contributed not a little to the advancement of knowledge in this direction.

In this volume he gives the results of his own observations, and also discusses fully the opinions of other authorities. The first hundred pages are occupied with the history of the investigations of the anatomy of the pancreas from ancient times; with the discoveries of Wirsung and Santorini; the modern observations, from those of Langerhans onwards; the anomalies of the organ; its histology; its relation to digestion, and particularly to carbohydrate metabolism.

While apparently all diseases of the pancreas receive due attention, the pathology of certain special diseases which are as yet obscure have been discussed in much detail. Amongst these are included
hæmorrhagic necrosis, chronic pancreatitis and diabetes mellitus in relation to the pancreatic changes found in that disease. The author presents data which would show that in all cases of diabetes mellitus, whatever be the other changes in the pancreas or in other organs and tissues, the important lesions are always to be found in the islets of Langerhans, which appear to be specially concerned with carbohydrate metabolism.

Amongst other pathological conditions discussed are tuberculosis and syphilis of the pancreas, pancreatic calculi, cysts of the pancreas, malignant growth, hæmochromatosis and bronzed diabetes.

Enough has been said to emphasise the importance of this book to all teachers of medicine and surgery, and to all who desire to keep themselves in touch with the latest investigations on the subject.

_A Manual of Practical Inorganic Chemistry._ By A. M. Kellas, B.Sc., Ph.D. Pp. 345. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1910. Price 5s. net.

_Introduction to Practical Organic Chemistry._ Pp. 204. Same Author, Publishers, and date. Price 3s. 6d. net.

Dr. Kellas has had many years’ experience as head of the department of chemistry in the Medical School of the Middlesex Hospital, and in these manuals he offers to teachers and students the results of his experience. Both books are characterised by the systematic manner in which the matter is presented, and by the careful attention paid to exact detail in the instructions given for practical work. To take an example at random. On pages 61-62 of the Inorganic Manual we find a list of the normal, acid, basic, and double salts, the preparation of which is described in the section of the book immediately following the list.

The list is not a mere enumeration of compounds but conveys definite information, _e.g._ under the heading _normal nitrates_ we have

| Typical Preparations                  | Additional Examples which could be Prepared in a Similar Way |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Potassium nitrate, KNO₃ (B.P.)        | NaNO₃, NH₄NO₃                                                |
| Barium nitrate, Ba(NO₃)₂               | Ca(NO₃)₂, Ba(NO₃)₂                                            |
| Lead nitrate, Pb(NO₃)₂                 | AgNO₃ (B.P.), Fe(NO₃)₃ (B.P.)                                  |
|                                       | Hg(NO₃)₂ (B.P.), Zn(NO₃)₂                                     |
|                                       | Mg(NO₃)₂                                                     |

Such tables are very helpful to the serious student when taken in conjunction with the clear and explicit practical directions given for carrying out the typical preparations. Thus a whole page is devoted to the preparation of potassium nitrate from caustic potash and nitric
acid, and every mistake which the most ingenious perversity could achieve is foreseen and provided against in the instructions.

The analytical section of the *Inorganic Manual* is equally satisfactory. The tests are judicially selected and the summaries of properties and reactions are well done. Besides ordinary qualitative testing, an introduction to gravimetric and volumetric analysis is given, and also a few examples of gas-analysis.

The *Practical Organic Chemistry* contains the following sections:—
I. Qualitative Elementary Analysis; II. General Laboratory Operations; III. Typical Preparations; IV. Specific Tests and Analysis; V. Detection of Typical Groups; VI. Quantitative Analysis. The Appendix gives some extra tests, and special quantitative methods.

A welcome feature in the book is the short section on group reactions. By a few simple tests the student can ascertain whether he is dealing with an acid, an ester, an alcohol, a ketone, &c. This form of testing is generally neglected, and yet it is at the basis of all organic testing which is not restricted to a definite syllabus for which special schemes may be devised.

Both volumes can be warmly recommended to the medical student who interests himself in chemistry.

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*Medical Electricity and Röntgen Rays.* By Sinclair Tousey, A.M., M.D. Pp. 1116. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1910.

We find in this bulky volume an endeavour, on the part of Dr. Sinclair Tousey, to record faithfully all that has been done in the past in practically the whole field of medical electricity.

The task is a Herculean one, and it reflects much credit on Dr. Tousey's industry and perseverance that he has attained so large a measure of success in his undertaking. We must, however, agree with him in thinking that to be really up to date in electrical subjects an author should confine himself to articles in weekly magazines.

The opening chapter gives very full directions as to the management of the static machine, the physiological effects of this form of electrical discharge, and the technique of its administration.

A long chapter on Dynamic Electricity follows, which should prove valuable to those who are interested in the construction of voltaic cells, series and shunt motors, etc., but we fear that the majority of medical practitioners are content to leave these matters in the hands of the instrument makers.

Next follow chapters on the Physiological Effects of Electricity, Electro-diagnosis, Ionic Medication and Electricity in Diseases of the Nervous System. Very full directions are given as to the use of the
high frequency current in disease, and Dr. Tousey has been more than usually successful with this method of treatment—in combination, it should be added, with weak doses of the X-rays—every condition he mentions, and they are many, having received benefit. In mucous colitis he considers the treatment to be almost a specific; but surely the “large strong young woman” who had suffered from this disease for four years, who, in spite of medicinal treatment by her brother, who is a prominent Board of Health physician, had “twenty-five bloody movements a day” for a whole month, and who was completely cured after ten applications, must have been a malingerer.

Over four hundred pages of the book are devoted to the consideration of the Röntgen ray, and here, more than anywhere else throughout the book, Dr. Tousey suffers from his inability to cope with the rapid advance made in the science of radiology.

In points of technique we are bound to protest against many of his recommendations. Thus for a lateral view of the frontal sinuses (p. 824) 40 to 60 seconds of exposure with the anticathode 12 to 14 inches from the plate seems to us a needlessly long exposure and dangerously short distance with the intensity of current he uses, and so with urinary calculi we can only charitably conclude that Dr. Tousey had not sufficient time to revise his proof sheets, or surely he would not have recommended an exposure of 150 seconds with the anticathode 18 to 22 inches from the plate and a primary current of 15 amperes, and, further, we consider interrupted exposures both unsatisfactory and unnecessary.

The illustrations are numerous and, as a rule, good, but we fail to see what object is gained by using photographs of the nude female upon which to indicate the motor points; such realism is quite uncalled for, and in the words of an American surgeon of repute indicates a “want of decorum.”

A carefully prepared index proves very useful, more especially as it includes the names of the numerous authors who have been freely quoted.

Hints for the General Practitioner in Rhinology and Laryngology. By Dr. JOHANN FEIN (Vienna). Translated by J. BOWRING HORGAN, M.B. Pp. 223. 42 Illustrations. London: Rebman, Limited. 1910. Price 5s.

The translator has worked under Dr. Fein in Vienna, and is anxious to make some of the principles of his teacher better known in this country. The author himself takes a very modest view of what may safely be taught to the general practitioner concerning laryngology and rhinology. The classification adopted is not so much pathological as symptomatic. Diseases of the larynx, for instance, are dealt with
under the headings General Symptoms, Disturbances of Phonation, Respiratory Troubles, Pain in the Larynx; then follow a few remarks on tuberculosis, cancer, syphilis, &c. The book contains many useful hints, especially in regard to the methods of examination, and, on the whole, the choice of subjects for extended comment has been judicious. The work is not without a touch of humour. Thus in describing an unsuccessful incision in a case of quinsy the author writes: “The incision, which is so hopefully performed, results in blood and dis-appointment, instead of pus and relief.”

The object of the book is to help the practitioner to diagnose diseases of the nose and throat and to treat the simpler conditions himself. In marked contrast to what we find in other recent works very few drugs are recommended in this book, but those mentioned are really useful. The translation has been well done.

A Handbook of the Surgery of Children. By Professor E. KIRMISON. Translated from the French by J. Keogh Murray, F.R.C.S. Pp. 812. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1910. 20s. net.

Professor KIRMISON’s handbook will be read with profit by all interested in the surgical aspects of disease in children. It is divided into four sections dealing respectively with surgical affections of congenital origin, injuries in childhood, inflammatory lesions and disorders of nutrition, and neoplasms. The descriptions of the morbid anatomy and clinical features of the conditions dealt with are full and good, and call for no special comment. Chief interest naturally lies in the sections devoted to treatment, for in these are recorded the personal opinions of the author founded on his wide and varied clinical experience.

Surgeons and practitioners will find much that is suggestive and helpful in the directions and advice which Professor Kirmisson has to give, and some will no doubt find special comfort in his marked preference for conservative and palliative measures whenever these offer an alternative to operative methods. In his recommendations for the treatment of club-foot, inguinal hernia, appendicitis, and all forms of surgical tuberculosis, to give some prominent examples, this conservative attitude is very marked. Although his faith in such methods is evidently firm, Professor Kirmisson states his opinions in general terms, unsupported by any detailed analysis of the material which has passed through his hands, and he may therefore fail to carry with him those who are sceptical of the value of trusses in curing inguinal hernia in infants, of the value of non-operative treatment in appendicitis and other conditions in which operative measures seem to offer a speedy and effective means of treatment.
A disappointing feature of the book is the absence of reference to many conditions to which attention has been directed in recent years. Among these may be mentioned congenital stenosis of the pylorus, idiopathic dilatation of the colon, tubercular osteomyelitis of the shafts of long bones, and vaccine treatment. Bier's methods of inducing passive congestion are dismissed in a single paragraph, as if hardly worth consideration. On the whole it may be said that while the book is interesting as presenting the views of an experienced surgeon, it fails to satisfy, because the outlook of the author is in many respects that of one who does not seem to be fully aware of what has been done by recent workers. The translator has done his work well, but has evidently felt constrained to try to compensate for omissions in some sections of the book and to modernise others, by adding comments along with brief extracts from the writings of other surgeons, a method which serves to accentuate defects without supplying an entirely satisfactory remedy.

Fractures and their Treatment. By J. Hogarth Pringle, M.B., F.R.C.S. Pp. 384. With 142 Figures. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1910. Price 15s.

This volume, one of the well-known Oxford Medical Publications, maintains the high standard established by the other numbers of the series. Strange to say, a considerable time has elapsed since the publication in this country of a special work on fractures, and with the impetus given to their study by the discovery of the X-rays and the insurance of workmen against injuries the want of a modern textbook has become more and more apparent. For these reasons alone this volume is deserving of welcome, but the author has done more than merely fill a gap. By judicious selection, based on a wide experience, he has given in a comparatively short compass an account of the mode of production and the treatment of fractures, which the practitioner may safely peruse without the dread of being confused by unnecessary details. A clear lead is given for the treatment of each fracture, and although we may object to the exclusion of this or that method, the advantage of brevity to the student and country doctor is obvious. Of the thirty-one chapters, eleven deal with fractures in general. The description of spiral fractures is worthy of special note, and the illustrative diagrams are valuable. With regard to Lucas Championnière's methods, he sums up as follows:—"The great difficulty in accepting them for all cases is the impossibility of avoiding osseous deformity, though, for certain cases, I believe they are admirable." Great importance is attached to the extension methods of treating fractures of the long bones. The author's attitude on the operative treatment by wiring and plating is of interest at the present time. He says: "I
fix primarily all subcutaneous fractures of the diaphyses where I cannot overcome deformities, of which the most important is shortening; or get rid of the interposition of muscle, etc.; and all fractures where the fragments are separated by muscular tension, e.g. patella, olecranon, tuberosity of humerus, os calcis, or trochanter of femur; and I fix most of the open fractures that I have to treat.” In addition, he is of opinion that the majority of intra- and para-articular fractures should be treated by incision and fixation. Five chapters are devoted to fractures of the skull and their complications, and these might profitably have been allotted more than two diagrams. The remaining chapters are taken up with the bones of the limbs, and a valuable essay on fractures in relation to workmen’s compensation, the value of which is enhanced by tables indicating the amount of depreciation in working efficiency after certain injuries. As was to be expected, the letterpress and illustrations are excellently done.

The Principles of Gynaecology. By W. Blair Bell, B.S., M.D.(Lond.), Assistant Gynaecological Surgeon, Royal Infirmary, Liverpool. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1910. Price 21s. net.

In this book the author has departed from the method of treating the subject usually adopted in text-books of gynaecology. Instead of taking up each organ separately and dealing with all the pathological conditions met with in it, he devotes separate chapters to each pathological process as it affects the different pelvic structures. Thus, one chapter deals with the infective and parasitic diseases of the genital tract, another with retention and effusion cysts, a third with innocent neoplasms, and so on. While this method has the advantage of saving unnecessary repetition, it is doubtful if, for the student beginning the study of the subject, it offers any advantage over the usual method of arrangement. A special feature of the book is the lucid way in which the author deals with the physiology of the pelvic organs, incorporating all the recent advances. Functional disturbances are also fully considered, and the latest methods of treatment explained. The relationship between the internal secretions of the ovary, thyroid gland, pituitary body, and suprarenals is discussed, and the possibilities of treatment with their various extracts, explained. The author’s well-known views on the part the calcium salts play in physiological and pathological processes are fully set forth in different parts of the book.

There is a section on gynaecological operations. The descriptions are brief and to the point, and the illustrations are exceptionally good. Throughout the text there are numerous photo-micrographs of pathological conditions, and, while some of these are not very clear, the
majority are good and fulfil their purpose of giving the student an exact idea of pathological appearances, as distinct from the erroneous impression conveyed by so many of the diagrams still in use in some text-books. For these reasons the book is adapted to the needs of the student, while it will also appeal to those interested in the scientific aspects of gynaecology, and to the practitioner seeking a reliable guide to the diagnosis and treatment of the common functional gynaecological ailments.

Wounds in War. The Mechanism of their Production and their Treatment.

By Colonel W. F. Stevenson, C.B., K.H.S., R.A.M.C. (Retd.). Third Edition. Pp. 559. With 137 Illustrations.

London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1910. Price 16s.

The publication of a third edition of this book in a comparatively short space of time is its best advertisement. The first five chapters are devoted to general military surgery, the sixth to the twelfth inclusive to regional surgery, the thirteenth describes the use of X-rays in war hospitals, and the fourteenth gives a comprehensive view of field ambulance and stretcher work in the field. The articles of the Geneva Convention, 1906, are a fitting finish for such a work.

The author would like it to be clearly understood that military surgery is a speciality. That portion of the first chapter which describes the mechanism of projectiles is one of the best parts of the book; it is a model of conciseness, and makes a somewhat intricate subject simple and fascinating to follow. In comparing the effects of experimental bullet wounds in the living and the dead, little attention is paid to the comparative elasticity of living tissue. In discussing the so-called “wind contusions,” Sir T. Longmore’s explanation is accepted as final.

Concussion of the cord due to the rapid passage of a rifle bullet in its near vicinity, without actual mechanical injury, may give rise to symptoms and results similar to those due to actual division of the cord.

Bullet wounds of the abdominal cavity justify immediate operation only if the surroundings are favourable, but it must be remembered that they are not so in mobile field units.

Strychnine is considered “a most valuable drug in the treatment of shock.” The author recommends that suppurating joints should be irrigated with 1 to 20 carbolic or 1 to 500 corrosive sublimate; there is no mention of this being followed by sterile water.

There are many interesting questions brought up, especially with regard to experiences in the late South African and Russo-Japanese wars, too numerous, however, to discuss. The printing is good and the illustrations are well selected. The X-ray photographs of injuries to bones by rifle bullets are typical. The term “English” is used with
irritating frequency when reference is made to the late South African and other wars in which the British army has participated.

Manual of Practical Anatomy. By the late D. J. CUNNINGHAM. Fourth Edition. Revised by Arthur Robinson. With 237 Illustrations, 101 of which are in Colour. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1910.

It is scarcely necessary for us to do more than record the fact that a new edition of Cunningham’s Practical Anatomy has appeared. This guide has a unique place in the student’s working library, and although with each re-issue we find it difficult to see in what directions further improvement is possible, every successive edition has proved an advance on its predecessor.

It is matter for congratulation that Professor Arthur Robinson, the successor of the distinguished author in the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, has undertaken the work of revision. The continued success of the manual is thus assured.

The Ship-Surgeon’s Handbook. By A. VAVASOUR ELDER, M.R.C.S. Second Edition. Crown 8vo. Pp. xii. + 387. London: Bailliére, Tindall & Cox. 1911. Price 5s. net.

This little volume is designed to act as a guide to men who are taking up the duties of surgeon on board the mercantile marine, and as such it can be safely recommended. The questions of outfit and appliances—with useful hints about the care of instruments, drugs, etc., at sea—are considered, and in this edition a special chapter is added on Ship Etiquette and Customs, and the question of the entry on the “log” of purely professional matters of diagnosis is discussed at some length. Two chapters are devoted specially to the American service, where the immigration restrictions are so rigidly enforced, hints being given as to how the surveying of a polyglot ship’s complement may best be managed. The author’s view as to the importance of the occurrence of syphilis in any member of the crew is rather contradictory. On page 149 he says cases of “syphilis, both primary and secondary, need not necessarily be excluded except in case of a member of the victualling department;” and on the next page “a very early case should be excluded in all departments.” The book contains many practical details which will be distinctly helpful to any medical purposing “going down to the sea in ships.”