REVIEW.

NEW BOOKS.

Difficult Labour. By Samuel J. Cameron, M.B., Ch.B.Glasg., F.R.F.P.S.G., and John Hewitt, M.B. London: Edward Arnold & Co. 1926. (10s. 6d. net.)

This book is an elaboration of the corresponding chapters in "A Glasgow Manual of Obstetrics." It deals only with the practical difficulties of obstetrics, and should appeal specially to younger men who are specialising in midwifery, although at the same time it should be useful to men of riper experience. The treatment of the varicous complications is clear and detailed. The chapters on accidental haemorrhage and on albuminuria and eclampsia are worthy of careful study, especially the latter, which embodies much recent research. The chapter on labour complicated by heart disease might with advantage have been made fuller. Nothing is said with regard to treatment of such cases by Cæsarean section, which has recently been employed with excellent results in the Glasgow Maternity Hospital. The book is one which may be usefully consulted by every obstetrical specialist.

An Introduction to Forensic Psychiatry in the Criminal Courts. By W. Norwood East, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1927. (16s. net.)

The present growing recognition of the possible connection between anti-social conduct and abnormal conditions of mind or body has led to medical men being asked with increasing frequency to express opinions in criminal courts on what are often exceedingly difficult cases, in which they may have little experience to guide them. Dr. East aims at being of assistance in such circumstances, and his practical standpoint and wide experience make his book one of considerable value. Admirable chapters on the examination of accused persons and on court procedure are followed by a full discussion of criminal responsibility, and the main divisions of mental defect and disorder are then separately dealt with in relation to offences committed by affected persons. Over eighty case-histories
are given in detail, and many others in outline. The author's views on certain debatable points, such as "moral insanity," might be criticised, the section on the psychoneuroses is rather inadequate, and we should have welcomed some constructive discussion of legal arrangements for psychological investigation in the cases of first offenders and juveniles. As it stands, however, the book is not only an instructive record of experience, but also a work of reference which any practitioner might some day find himself very glad to have at hand.

Practical Methods in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Diseases. By David Lees, D.S.O., M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1927. (15s. net.)

This book is written primarily for the student. It gives an excellent account of modern methods and standpoints, written in a clear, didactic style. The practical aspect of treatment is emphasised throughout. Controversial points and doubtful theories are left well alone, yet sufficient is said to indicate that the subject is a rapidly growing one. By way of criticism, we suggest to Dr. Lees that in dealing with syphilis he has not sufficiently emphasised the systemic infection of the later stages with their multiple lesions, and that regional diagnosis should be subordinated further to a generalised examination. Further, we would welcome more guidance from him as to the late management and relative indications for treatment in cases of tertiary and quaternary syphilis. The quality of reproduction of the photographs is not equal to their clinical value. These criticisms are intended to indicate that we have taken an interest in this volume, and we have no hesitation in saying that we appreciate and recommend it.

Diseases of the Heart and Lungs: A Handbook for Nurses. By A. I. G. McLaughlin, M.B., Ch.M. London: Faber & Gwyer, Limited. 1926. (4s. 6d. net.)

In this small book the commoner diseases of the heart and lungs are dealt with from the nurse's point of view. The author is to be congratulated on the arrangement of the work, which is really excellent. The description of the causes and nature of the various diseases is sufficient for the purpose in view without erring on the side of too much technical detail. The various instruments and
apparatus in clinical use are briefly referred to, and in most instances photographs are attached, together with a clear statement of the nurse's duty in connection with each, and there the matter is left. The symptoms of the diseases described are dealt with in sufficient detail, while the instructions as regards nursing treatment are essentially practical. Chapters on anatomy and physiology of the thoracic organs are included, as also a description of a few more advanced subjects, such as artificial pneumothorax and serum treatment of pneumonia. The book is well and clearly written, the print and paper conducive to easy reading, and the illustrations excellent. The author has achieved his object in writing a small, concise, and clear manual, which should be of considerable value to nurses in their clinical training.

The Septic Problem. By D. M. Paton, M.B., Ch.B. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1926. (7s. 6d. net.)

Finding it impossible to explain satisfactorily the results obtained by the oral administration of serum in a variety of diseases, the author of this book has tried to find a solution to what he calls "the septic problem" by a new theory of immunity which he has devised. After nearly thirty years' experience in the use of sera, the author's conclusion is that the results which he has obtained by oral administration can "by no stretch of the imagination" be included in the limits of present-day conceptions of immunity. However interesting his clinical observations may be, we fear that this attempt to explain them adds little to our understanding of the mechanism of either specific or non-specific immunity. The author's ideas require to be subjected to carefully controlled and extensive experimental investigation before they can be accepted.

The Life and Work of Sir Patrick Manson. By Philip H. Manson-Bahr, D.S.O., M.D., F.R.C.P., and A. Alcock, C.I.E., LL.D. Aberd., F.R.S. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1927. (16s. net.)

Anyone who numbers among his friends men who practise medicine in the Tropics cannot fail to be struck by the deep regard with which they speak of the late Sir Patrick Manson. The fascinating story of his long life of work is told in this memoir by his son-in-law and Lieut.-Colonel Alcock. Manson was born in 1844 in the parish of
Oldmeldrum in Aberdeenshire, and graduated in medicine at Aberdeen University in 1865. His first experience of Tropical Medicine was in the island of Formosa, but the real foundation of his work and reputation was laid at Amoy, where he had settled in 1871. Here were carried out the researches on *Filaria* and filariasis, in which, for the first time, it was proved that a human blood parasite underwent part of its development in the body of an insect, in this case a mosquito. This discovery was of immense importance, and the book brings out clearly the advice and encouragement which his experience enabled Manson to give to Ross in his search for a corresponding phase of development in the malarial parasite. From Amoy, Manson went to Hong-Kong, and thence to practise in London, and in both places inspired the foundation of a School of Medicine. His interest in research continued throughout his life, and there was no sign of weakening of mental power in his last years. He died in 1922. The book is of great general interest, but it will, in addition, take a place in that rather small class of biographies which encourage all and inspire the young.

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**Infections of the Hand.** By Lionel R. Fifield, F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1926. (9s. net.)

The functional disability and economic loss caused by infections of the hand are so great, and form such a serious problem, that we welcome this attempt to provide in a compact and accessible form the main principles as well as the practical details of the successful treatment of this condition. An introductory chapter on anatomy is followed by descriptions of whitlow and its complications; infections of the palm and complications; osteomyelitis and suppurative arthritis; lymphatic infections; infections of the dorsum; and, finally, chapters on prognosis and treatment. The author has succeeded admirably in compressing within 192 pages much most useful information and details of treatment, and we can cordially recommend this book to all who have to deal with hand infections.

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**The Hepatic Principle, Anabolin, Detoxication by the Liver, and the Control of Functional Hypertension.** By Henry R. Harrower, M.D. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1927. (10s. 6d. net).

In this book Dr. Harrower reviews the present state of knowledge of the relationship between detoxication by the liver, and the
control of functional hypertension. He claims to have discovered a new hepatic principle, which is neither histamine nor choline, nor a mixture of these substances. This he has named "Anabolin." Its effects upon functional hypertension are so marked that his personal conviction is that it may be considered the internal secretion of the liver. The opening chapters contain an interesting historical account of our knowledge of the liver, and in succeeding chapters the gradual development of endocrine research is traced and the methods of separating hepatic principles are detailed. Anabolin is separated and purified by chemical fractionation. It appears to retain its potency indefinitely, and its effects on blood-pressure are believed to be due to a pure hormone. The clinical reports, though somewhat sparse and lacking in detail, certainly suggest that the remedy is of value, and worthy of full investigation. The book is well written, although at times it becomes rather undignified, especially when referring to the work of others.

Sunlight and Artificial Light. By Harold Wigg. London: Faber & Gwyer, Limited. 1926. (1s. 6d. net.)

This little book is written primarily for nurses, but will also be quite suitable for students. The scope of treatment by ultra-violet light is dealt with, and a number of diseases in which this form of treatment has proved useful are mentioned. The various types of apparatus are explained and instructions given in their use. The author gives warning against the indiscriminate use of such a powerful therapeutic agent, and "the tendency to regard it as a panacea for all evils"—a timely warning considering the fact that "sunlight at home treatment" is being so widely advertised.

Medical Notes. By W. J. Tyson, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1926. (2s. 6d. net.)

These notes, "jotted down at various times of my leisure," are of value only in so far as they deal with points not usually found in ordinary text-books. As the author says, they are stray thoughts, and consequently the notes are disconnected and cover many aspects of medical and surgical practice. It is hardly a book to be bought unless by friends of the author.
NEW EDITIONS.

Lecithin and Allied Substances: The Lipins. Monographs on Biochemistry. By Hugh Maclean, M.D., D.Sc., and Ida Smedley Maclean, D.Sc., F.I.C. Second Edition. London: Longmans, Green & Co., Limited. 1927. (10s. 6d. net.)

Although our knowledge of the chemistry of the lipins has not fundamentally advanced since the publication of this monograph in 1918, some noteworthy alterations have been made in the second edition of the work. In the introductory chapter on nomenclature the authors advocate the use of the terms phospholipin and galactolipin for phosphatide and cerebroside respectively. Cuorin, which in the first edition was tentatively placed in the list of phospholipids, has been shown to consist of kephalin and some phosphorus containing impurity. Nervon is included in the group of galactolipins with phrenosin and kerasin. Important changes in the subject-matter have been necessitated by the recent researches of Levene and his co-workers on the detailed structure, properties, and isolation of lecithin and kephalin, which are fully described. The chapter on the function of the lipins has also been revised and extended. The authors guardedly conclude that "it is not yet possible to dissociate the lipins from the other cell constituents, and attribute to them alone any specific properties associated with the cell." The task of revision has been carefully carried out, and the high standard of the original work has been fully maintained in the new edition.

Lessons on Massage. By Margaret S. Palmer. Sixth Edition, Revised and Rewritten by Dorothy Wood, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1927. (10s. 6d. net.)

This text-book, well known to numerous members of the massage profession, has now reached its sixth edition, and has been revised and rewritten by Dr. Dorothy Wood. The various conditions treated by massage (an ever-growing list) are enumerated and described, together with the appropriate massage treatment. A large section of the book is devoted to systematic anatomy and elementary physiology, and this portion is illustrated by numerous excellent diagrams, many of them in colours. An appendix deals with the old and new anatomical nomenclatures, and the opinions of well-known orthopedic surgeons, both British and American, are quoted freely in the text. The
text-book is of modest size, and yet includes within its covers a mass of information put in a clear, concise manner, and in such a way that reference to a particular subject is easy and rapid. The sixth edition should share the success of its predecessors, and is an excellent book of reference for those intending to take the examinations of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics.

A Synopsis of Hygiene, specially intended for those Studying for a Diploma in Public Health. By W. Wilson Jameson, M.A., M.D.Aberd., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.Lond., Barrister-at-Law, and F. T. Marchant, M.R.San.Inst. Second Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1927. (18s. net.)

Dr. Jameson and Mr. Marchant in this second edition of their "Synopsis of Hygiene" have rewritten the greater part of the original work. Meteorology, which now figures largely in the public health curriculum, is dealt with in a lucid way. Free-air observations are referred to, the millibar is explained, and an account of the Kew pattern barometer is given. Under water-supply the chlorination of water is adequately discussed. The causes of air-vitiation are correctly stated; the Katathermometer is described and its uses defined. Public health chemistry and physics, personal hygiene, food, building construction, school hygiene, maternity and child welfare, epidemiology and infectious disease, parasitology, disinfection and vital statistics are all competently set forth. The section on sanitary law, which is concise without obscurity, includes the most recent statutory provisions on milk-supply, food-preservatives, and tuberculosis in cattle. This book is trustworthy. It reviews the subject of hygiene in a comprehensive manner, and brings it up to date. It is cordially recommended to candidates studying for a degree or diploma in Public Health.

The Theory and Practice of Massage. By Beatrice M. Goodall-Copestake. Fourth Edition. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1926. (12s. 6d. net.)

It is nine years since the first edition of this book appeared, and the appearance of this—the fourth—edition is a measure of the progress made in the scope and study of massage. The size of the book has not been materially increased in spite of the addition
of new matter. Short descriptions of the following conditions have been added, together with some suggestions for their treatment by massage, sacro-iliac strain, myositis ossificans, and encephalitis lethargica. We are glad to see emphasis laid on the importance of active and assisted movements in restoring function. We can thoroughly recommend this book, especially to those unacquainted with the modern developments of massage and allied treatments.

Diseases of the Eye. By Sir John H. Parsons, C.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.R.S. Fifth Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1926. (19s. net.)

Although the student and practitioner have a wide choice of excellent text-books on ophthalmology, it may with confidence be asserted that the one before us occupies an outstanding, if not the foremost, position in its class. The author is a master of lucid exposition, and by avoidance of superfluous verbiage gives the maximum of information in the minimum of space, and in eminently readable form. The work is, of course, more than a text-book of diseases of the eye, for it covers the whole field of ophthalmology, including the anatomy and physiology of the eye, optics, and the neurology of vision. The operations of ophthalmology are dealt with in sufficient detail, and there are additional chapters on the causes and prevention of blindness and the hygiene of vision. In this new edition the value of microscopy of the living eye as rendered possible by the Gullstrand slit-lamp is adequately recognised. The illustrations are abundant and in every way appropriate, and the production of the book is, of course, excellent. We can cordially recommend it.

Applied Pharmacology. By A. J. Clark, M.C., B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Second Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1927. (15s. net.)

Since the first edition of this book appeared three years ago important advances have been made in pharmacology. To include these, several chapters have been rewritten, and much new material inserted. New chapters on central nervous stimulants, and on the pharmacology of the liver and haemoglobin formation have been added. The functions of the liver, and the drugs which may benefit those functions are described, and there is a full discussion of iron medication. The book can be confidently recommended. Every medical practitioner will find it helpful.