In sixty-five short chapters the author brings together a mine of information regarding pre- and post-operative treatment. The result is a book that a house surgeon will rejoice to have in his pocket. Older surgeons naturally have their favourite methods and level criticism at all others, but the author steers a safe course and succeeds in producing a work which will save much searching through numerous larger text-books in which, after all, the subject may be less fully discussed. Mr. Maingot acknowledges the help of numerous colleagues who have contributed articles on their specialities. This is certainly a useful book to have on a convenient shelf.

Human Physiology. By F. R. Winton, M.D., and L. E. Bayliss, Ph.D. With a Chapter on the Physiology of the Sense Organs by R. J. Lythgoe. Foreword by C. Lovatt Evans. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1930. (15s. net.)

It is a common complaint amongst teachers of clinical medicine and surgery that students are unable to bring to the problems of medicine an understanding of the fundamental facts and principles of physiology. In passing, it may be said that the physiology of the clinicians is not infrequently antiquated. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that the teaching of physiology to medical students is sometimes too academic. It is essential that the basic principles of the science should be taught, but it is now wisely held that the illustrations of these principles in action should be culled from the domain of man whenever possible. This book is written from such a standpoint, and as such will be welcomed by all teachers. In our opinion, an even better recommendation is the fact that dogmatic teaching has been studiously avoided. It cannot be over-emphasized even at such an early stage of the curriculum as the second year that most theories are only tentative, and that even long-cherished "laws" may vanish with the advance of knowledge. If we have any criticism to make it is that some of the chapters, such as that...
on hydrogen-ion concentration and neutrality regulation, are too concise to be clear. The figures and illustrations are good, and the bibliography at the end of the book should be of great value in stimulating the student and guiding him in the pursuit of more detailed knowledge.

This volume should prove acceptable to all serious students of medicine, graduate and undergraduate.

Criminal Abortion. By L. A. Parry, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.S.
London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Limited. 1932. (10s. 6d. net.)

The author gives as a reason for the appearance of this book the fact that there has been no publication on this subject in this country for some considerable time. He also considers that, in view of the increase in the illegal induction of abortion, the present time seems an appropriate one to discuss and review the subject in its various aspects.

With the necessity for such a book at this time we entirely agree; especially when we consider the publicity given of late to modern contraceptive methods and appliances, and the pushing of the doctrines of the exponents of their use, with the influence which such have had in regard to the views relating to and the practice of criminal abortion. Recently the feeling in certain quarters seems to be that a departure of view from the true aspect of the subject has taken place. Even in courts of law, influenced by such opinions and the attitude of certain foreign countries to legalize or minimize the offence of abortion, it has become extremely difficult to secure a conviction in a definite and bad case.

Such a review of the subject as has been presented by the writer is all the more acceptable at this time; and we have to congratulate him on the fullness, fairness, and accuracy with which he has presented his views.

The monograph deals with the different aspects of abortion, natural, therapeutic, and criminal; and in regard to therapeutic abortion the author gives a full expression of the position of the Roman Catholic Church on the subject. The methods adopted in procuring abortion and the dangers associated with them are fully discussed, and there are chapters dealing with the law on the subject both in historical and modern times.

A chapter is devoted to abortifacient advertisements, the expressed views of the medical journals in regard to these, and reference to the introduction and to the clauses of a bill introduced to Parliament in 1931 "to regulate the manufacture, sale, and advertisement of certain medicines and surgical
appliances, and for purposes connected therewith." This bill does not apply to Scotland or Northern Ireland and has not yet become law.

The part of the book concerning the medico-legal examination of cases of alleged abortion deals with the points of importance in the examination of the living in cases where such has been suspected, the examination of the body where death has occurred in consequence, and the examination of the articles which may be related to the case.

The duties of doctors in illegal operation cases, and the difficulties which the medical man may encounter in regard to such cases are fully discussed. The concluding part of the book deals with a series of illustrative cases.

The author has covered quite fully the entire ground of his subject, and no particular part has been unduly stressed at the expense of some other section. To those engaged in medico-legal work, as well as to the general practitioner, the book will prove of considerable interest and of general reference.

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_Intracranial Pyogenic Diseases._ By A. Logan Turner, M.D., LL.D.Edin., Hon.F.R.C.P.Edin., F.R.C.S.Edin., F.R.S.E., and F. Esmond Reynolds, M.D.Edin., D.T.M.&H.Camb., M.R.C.P.Edin. Edinburgh and London: Oliver & Boyd. 1931. (12s. 6d. net.)

"A Pathological and Clinical Study of the Pathways of Infection from the Face, the Nasal and Paranasal Air-Cavities" is the sub-title of this volume and amply explains its scope. It is inscribed to the pioneer work of Sir William Macewen on intracranial infection. The book is the result of nine years' investigation. In so far as it is a microscopic study it might broadly be regarded as completing, in a more limited field Macewen's masterpiece, _Pyogenic Infective Diseases of the Brain and Spinal Cord_, published in 1893.

The pathways of infection considered are—(1) The lymphatic system; (2) Direct extension through loss of continuity in the bone; (3) The blood-stream, where infection is generally through a spreading thrombosis; and (4) Special regional pathways, chiefly the olfactory perineural sheath. With regard to infection by the lymphatic system, the authors state that such could not be demonstrated, and on anatomical grounds is obviously impossible. Cases are cited illustrating infection by the other three pathways. In a series of 55 cases, the pathway of infection was by the venous blood-stream in 19 (13 being cases of cavernous sinus thrombosis and of general blood infection), by direct extension through bone in 20 and a combination of direct extension and
Reviews.

blood-stream in 8. In 4, it was along olfactory perineural sheaths and in 4 the pathway could not be determined. There has been close co-operation between clinician and pathologist. As stated in conclusion, "although our investigation has been conducted along pathological rather than along clinical lines, we have sought, wherever possible, to indicate the clinical significance of the underlying pathological process and its application to surgical treatment." The cases are presented with full clinical histories and with detailed pathological findings, and are magnificently illustrated. The authors are to be congratulated on a careful and painstaking piece of research and the publishers on the excellent reproduction of the illustrations and on the general "make-up" of the volume.

It is a work of outstanding merit and deserves the careful study of those with whose field of activity it deals.

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A Text-Book of X-Ray Therapeutics. By Robert Knox, M.D., C.M.Edin., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.I.E.E., D.M.R.E. Completed and Edited by Walter M. Levitt, M.B.Irel., M.R.C.P.Lond., D.M.R.E.Camb. London: A. & C. Black, Limited. (21s. net.)

This important volume provides a comprehensive and up-to-date survey of x-ray therapeutics. At the time of Dr. Knox's death he was engaged in a revision of his well-known work on radio-therapeutics, which was to be re-issued on slightly different lines, and Dr. Levitt has to be congratulated on the way in which he has carried out the difficult task of completing the work. Certain chapters are his own, but the bulk of the material is the result of editing or revision of what Dr. Knox had already prepared. The task deals in an admirable fashion with the physics of x-rays, their effects on the tissues, apparatus, and the measurement of dosage. The technique of treatment in various parts of the body for a wide variety of conditions is discussed lucidly, and particularly to be commended is the way in which the underlying principles are indicated so that no reader could retain the impression that modern x-ray treatment is of a haphazard nature, although where different methods or opinions exist these are fairly indicated. The book, besides being of considerable practical importance, should serve to indicate how great the recent advances have been along this line, and also that carefully thought out methods must be adopted in a systematized fashion if patients are to benefit accordingly. It seems clear that x-rays are destined to play an increasingly important part in the treatment of malignant disease, alone or in combination with radium and surgery; this aspect is adequately dealt with. The
book can be commended with confidence to a wide circle of readers as an authoritative volume.

*A Handbook on Diseases of Children, including Dietetics and the Common Fevers.* By Bruce Williamson, M.D.Edin., M.R.C.P.Lond. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1931. (10s. 6d. net.)

This book has been written for students and practitioners. It provides a fairly comprehensive if rather too concise summary of the medical diseases of infancy and childhood. The inclusion of two chapters on the common fevers of childhood is a distinct advantage. There are several points, however, to which we would take objection. The idea that acidosis is present when acetone bodies are demonstrable in the urine has long been exploded. Indeed, the author himself quotes Frew’s results that acetonuria was present in 408 out of 662 consecutive cases, indicating perhaps an instability of metabolism but surely not necessarily acidosis. Among the signs of under-feeding one of the most important—vomiting—is omitted. Generally, we would make the criticism that too much has been attempted for the size of the volume. For those who like this type of book, it should be of great use. The plates, figures and charts have been clearly produced and illustrate the points desired.

*Mothercraft: Antenatal and Postnatal.* By R. C. Jewesbury, D.M., F.R.C.P. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1932. (10s. 6d. net.)

In *Mothercraft*, Dr. Jewesbury deals with a field of medical work the importance of which cannot be gainsaid. He has the assistance of Dr. Fairbairn, who has contributed a chapter on "The Relation of Mothercraft to Other Aspects of Maternity Work," and also of Professor Mellanby, whose contribution amounts to some ten pages on "The Physiology of Lactation."

The author is Hon. Medical Director to the London Mothercraft Training Society, founded in 1918 by Sir Frederick Truby King, whose methods of artificial feeding of infants are fully described and advocated by Dr. Jewesbury. To those who are not Truby King enthusiasts, and who regard complicated milk recipes and the special fat emulsion, "New Zealand Cream," as unnecessary elaborations, the book may savour of propaganda. To those who are followers of his principles, the book should make an especially strong appeal. However, it contains much interesting and useful
matter, many excellent illustrations, of which thirteen are in
colour, and several helpful infant menus. The subjects of
constipation, pyloric stenosis, and marasmus in infants are particu-
larly well done.

Although, in a book of this size, disorders of the first few
days of infancy cannot be described in detail, one feels that fuller
reference might have been made to such conditions as melæna
neonatorum, ophthalmia, engorgement of infants breasts, and
œdema.

The author is to be congratulated on a useful and well-produced
contribution on an important subject.

The Heart and Spleen in Health and Disease. By G. ARBOUR
Stephens, M.D., B.S., B.Sc.Lond. London: H. K. Lewis
& Co., Limited. 1932. (7s. 6d. net.)

This volume contains a number of essays on a variety of topics
more or less closely related to the subject of the title. It is
independent in its point of view, and the author expresses many
opinions which can be described only as heterodox. The views
elaborated result from many years of observation and express
the conclusions to which the author’s long experience of disease
has led him. It would take more space than we have at our
disposal to deal with the many controversial aspects of Dr.
Stephens’ philosophy, and we may perhaps best commend his
book by saying that the reading of it has left us both stimulated
and dissatisfied—stimulated by the novelty of many of the ideas
set forth, and dissatisfied by the inadequacy of the evidence
brought forward in support of some of them. Physicians who
like to do their own thinking will find pleasure in reading Dr.
Stephens’ thought-provoking heresies.

The Glucosides. By E. F. ARMSTRONG, D.Sc., Ph.D., LL.D.,
F.R.S., and K. F. ARMSTRONG, B.A., B.Sc. London:
Longmans, Green & Co. 1931. (21s. 6d. net.)

This is one of the series of monographs on biochemistry, acting
as a new edition of a section of the authors’ previous book on the
Simple Carbohydrates. This expansion was made necessary by
the many advances made during the past seven years. A clear
and comprehensive review is given of the chemistry of the many
natural and synthetic glucosides. Those of special medical interest
include salicin, digitalis and strophanthus derivatives. The last
two chapters are concerned with the function and utilization of
glucosides in plants, and an indication is given of their possible importance in animal nutrition. The bibliography is very full. To anyone interested in biochemistry or pharmacology this book is of great importance.

NEW EDITIONS

Forensic Medicine. By Sydney Smith, M.D.Edin., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Third Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1931. (24s.)

The appearance of a third edition of Professor Sydney Smith's text-book in a period of six years shows with what favour it has already been received. As a student's text-book it has made its mark and worthily serves its purpose, both from the point of view of the fullness and accuracy of the text and the manner in which the author has kept the volume within the reasonable size of a student's book. Each section of the subject has been carefully considered, and the due proportion of pages which it deserves has been accorded to it. There is no overburdening with illustrative cases.

In the present edition the author mentions that the section on insanity has been thoroughly revised, but we feel that he could have improved the chapter still further by increasing its size.

The section devoted to toxicology is of quite appropriate size in proportion to the rest of the work, but some of the important and more frequently used poisons could have been more fully dealt with at the expense of space devoted to the more uncommon varieties.

The illustrations are good. As a student's text-book and as a book of reference for the practitioner we can heartily recommend this work.

Text-book of Medicine. By Various Authors. Edited by J. J. Conybeare, M.C., M.D.Oxon., F.R.C.P. Second Edition. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1932. (21s. net.)

The first edition of this text-book of medicine was published in 1928, and the fact that a second edition has been called for is in itself an indication that the work has proved acceptable. The general character and scope of the book remain as before. The authors' object has been to provide an account of the essentials of medicine in a form suitable for the student and the practitioner within as small a compass and at as low a price as possible. The text has been revised and, where necessary,
Rewritten, and some new material has been added. This new matter includes additional information regarding the newer developments in all the sections of medical knowledge dealt with, and the book is thus thoroughly up to date. It can be recommended with confidence to readers who wish for something less elaborate than the larger text-books and yet more adequate than a mere epitome of medicine.

**Minor Surgery.** By Lionel R. Fifield, F.R.C.S.Eng. Second Edition. Revised by R. J. McNeill Love, M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1931. (12s. 6d. net.)

The first edition of this work by the late Mr. Fifield rightly enjoyed a wide popularity with students and practitioners, for whom it was primarily written. Mr. R. J. McNeill Love has edited this second edition, and we hope, with him, that it will serve to perpetuate the memory of one who showed brilliant promise, and whose career was so tragically cut short by a motor accident. Few changes have been made, the chief being the addition of a very short section on the ear. The new edition maintains its usefulness as a trustworthy guide in minor surgical affections and operations. It is of an appealing brevity yet wonderfully complete in its purpose, and it is efficiently illustrated.

**The Diagnosis of Nervous Diseases.** By Sir James Purves-Stewart, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D. Seventh Edition. London: Edward Arnold & Co. 1931. (35s. net.)

The seventh edition of this book maintains its special place as a guide to the nervous diseases encountered in clinical practice. In a subject such as neurology it is of particular value to have a book which approaches the disease through symptoms which the doctor is likely to meet, at any turn, in his daily rounds. The author deals most thoroughly with the essential groundwork of the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system. In this latter section, where he has made many additions in the light of recent research, he gives the reader an interesting conception of the interplay of the kinetic mechanism for active movement, and the static mechanism for the maintenance of posture. Furthermore, he indicates how those two essential components of muscular movement—the kinetic or contractile tonus governed by a somatic arc with medullated nerve fibres and the static or plastic tonus governed by a sympathetic reflex arc with non-
medullated nerve fibres—are present throughout the whole efferent nervous system. He traces the co-operative function of these two mechanisms to the higher levels of the cerebral cortex. The familiar and illuminating chapters on the cranial nerves, paralysis of the upper neurone type, paralysis of the lower neurone type, and postures and gaits, are enhanced by findings from the writer's more recent experience.

In the last chapter, on intracranial tumours, however, the reader has the feeling that the author's aim in producing a picture of current clinical neurology would have been better fulfilled had he commenced this chapter in his old way with a description of general symptoms rather than with a classification of tumours founded on embryological and histological characters, which might have been placed with greater advantage later in the text.

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*Aids to Surgical Diagnosis.* By Cecil P. G. Wakeley, F.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1932. (3s. 6d. net.)

The fact that a second edition of this book has been found necessary would seem to indicate that there are some who find it useful. Our impression is that it is too "scrappy" for the junior or beginner, and not complete enough for revision purposes of the senior student. We consider the inclusion of certain of the more obvious methods of examination essential.

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*Text-Book of Massage and Remedial Gymnastics.* By L. L. Despard. Third Edition. London: Humphrey Milford (Oxford University Press). 1932. (22s. 6d. net.)

This *Text-Book*, already well known to members of the massage profession, has now reached its third edition, and has been brought up to date in a thorough fashion. The first half of the book is devoted entirely to anatomy, and the second half to subjects dealing with the practical work of the masseuse, such as remedial exercises, medical electricity, &c. The letterpress is excellent, and the illustrations, both anatomical and otherwise, are numerous and of a very high standard. The book is the most comprehensive of its kind in this country, and, apart altogether from its moderate price, is deserving of a very wide circulation, not only among the masseuses themselves, but among medical men interested in reparative surgery.