to, should obviate many difficulties and prevent many mistakes. They are concise and interesting, and the work of a man who knows what he is talking about.

_A Nursing Manual for Nurses and Nursing Orderlies._ By Duncan C. L. Fitzwilliams, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. Pp. 466. With 106 Illustrations. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1915. Price 6s. net.

This book is primarily intended for the use of nurses, and the author has succeeded in his endeavour to include the main essentials which a nurse, a nursing orderly, or a Red Cross worker should know. The subject-matter is so arranged that the common diseases are associated with the anatomical and physiological description of the organs concerned, and this helps the association of ideas. The various subjects are clearly and concisely dealt with, and the author has refrained from being too technical. The illustrations are numerous and well chosen, and assist greatly in the explanation of the text. As may be expected in a first edition there are a few errors to be noted, and one of these may be instanced where on p. 19 the number of cervical vertebrae is given as 5 instead of 7. First aid in the field has been fully dealt with, and at the present time this will prove of great value. The index is clearly arranged and is full and complete. This book should prove of great value to those for whom it is intended, not only during the present time of war but also in less strenuous times.

NEW EDITIONS.

_The Operative Treatment of Fractures._ By Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, Bart., M.S., F.R.C.S. Second Edition. Pp. 184. 226 Figs. London: Medical Publishing Co., Ltd. 1914. Price 10s.

Surgeons will value this book for the account which it gives of Sir Arbuthnot Lane's methods of operating on simple fractures, a subject on which he is an acknowledged master. They will be disappointed, however, if they are on the lookout for guidance as to when they are to operate and when to hold their hand. The author would apparently recommend a skilful surgeon to operate in almost every case of simple fracture if his aseptic technique were reliable. The opinions strongly and confidently expressed throughout this book are not generally supported by convincing arguments. One of the chief reasons given for advocating operation in simple fractures is the supposed invariably bad result of non-operative treatment.

When the first edition was published sixteen or seventeen years ago, reference was made to what were then recent methods of non-operative treatment. Attention has since that time been frequently drawn in medical journals to improvements in non-operative treatment, but Sir Arbuthnot Lane does not appear to have considered them.
The original references remain as they were. Thus on page 34 of the present edition Sir Arbuthnot Lane says: "Instead of quoting the fossilised reproductions in surgical text-books I prefer to furnish extracts from recent teachings in England"; and goes on to quote from the Clinical Journal of 15th May 1895, and from the Lancet of 4th January 1896 and 12th June 1897. It may be true that some surgeons still practise the non-operative methods of eighteen and twenty years ago, but their results are not the best attainable at the present time by the non-operative methods. Just as it would be unfair to the operative method to judge of it from the results obtained by any but well-instructed and skilful operators, so it is unfair to estimate the value of the non-operative method by a similar standard.

In the Report by the Fractures Committee of the British Medical Association no attempt was made to distinguish in the statistical tables between the work of individuals using either operative or non-operative methods. This way of dealing with the results was probably unavoidable under the circumstances, but it nevertheless detracted from the value of the opinions expressed by the Committee. One of the main conclusions in the Report, however, is quoted by Sir Arbuthnot Lane. It is as follows:

"The statistics relative to the non-operative treatment of fractures of the shafts of the long bones in children (under the age of fifteen years), with the exception of fractures of both bones of the forearm, show, as a rule, a high percentage of good results. These are unlikely to be improved upon materially by any other method of treatment."

In spite of this, however, and although Sir Arbuthnot Lane says: "Like the Committee, I have not the slightest doubt as to the best method of dealing with simple fractures," he has not altered his views as to the treatment by operation of fracture of the femur in children. On page 83, in dealing with fractures of the femur in children, he says: "I do not hesitate to operate to ensure a perfect result even when the displacement is inconsiderable."

But the advocacy of operative methods found in this book is based not only on the supposed inferiority of all possible non-operative methods, but also upon a theory which Sir Arbuthnot Lane treats as if it were beyond discussion. He repeatedly states that no perfectly satisfactory functional result after a fracture can be obtained unless there is a perfectly satisfactory anatomical result. That is a statement which à priori sounds well, but is not borne out by surgical experience in other parts of the body as well as with regard to bones. Curiously enough Sir Arbuthnot Lane has been blamed for advocating, too strenuously, interference with the anatomical structure of the alimentary canal in order to restore the healthy functions of the body in ailments too numerous to mention. If all he says about the value of the colectomy be accepted, good functional results after an operation on the
alimentary canal at least are not dependent on good anatomical results.

In many other parts of the body, however, functional results do not seem to be impaired by altered anatomical results, as, for instance, by the removal of a semilunar cartilage or a kidney, and this is certainly true of certain fractures, as, for instance, a fractured clavicle. It is the experience of every general practitioner that a fractured clavicle scarcely ever leaves an unsatisfactory functional result, but just as seldom leaves a satisfactory anatomical one.

The whole question turns upon the power of compensation possessed by the body. Where compensation is possible, anatomical results may be greatly altered without appreciable loss of function; where compensation is deficient, restoration of anatomical perfection is correspondingly important.

This is the problem which surgeons have still to work out with regard to fractures. They have to learn how to attain, without operation, the maximum of functional return after a fracture in a minimum of time, and to understand in what cases operation will give a better result, and at what risk.

When they have made up their mind that an operation is necessary they will be grateful to Sir Arbuthnot Lane for his great work in developing the operative side of the question, but they are not likely to follow him in his sweeping condemnation of all non-operative measures.

_Swanzy's Handbook of the Diseases of the Eye._ Edited by Louis Werner. Eleventh Edition. Pp. xviii. + 646. With 270 Illustrations. London: H. K. Lewis. 1915. Price 12s. 6d. net.

The eleventh edition of this work, which is brought out by Dr. Werner alone owing to the death of Sir Henry Swanzy, will be received with great pleasure by all who are interested in ophthalmology.

Many improvements and additions, both in illustrations and in the text, have been made without increasing the size of the book. Due justice is done to Edridge Green's theory of colour vision, while Holmgren's wools have been eliminated. The chapter on retinal diseases has been largely recast, and serviceable articles have been added in connection with artificial eyes, heterophoria, nystagmus, the Schötz tonometer, and other subjects. The chapter on the pupil has been replaced, but unfortunately without the tables giving the comparative actions of the chief mydriatics and myotics, which formed—especially to beginners—a very useful feature of the ninth edition. The new illustrations are excellent, though one, that showing the "nasal step" in the field of vision in glaucoma, might have been more happily chosen.

Apart from such small matters the present edition will be found further to increase the well-deserved popularity of Swanzy's _Handbook_, which we heartily recommend to practitioners as well as students.
Materia Medica, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. By W. Hale White. Fourteenth Edition. Pp. xii. + 712. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1915. Price 6s. 6d. net.

This edition, like its predecessors, is a model of accurate information put in as interesting and concise a form as the nature of the subject permits. Necessarily a good many alterations have been made as a result of the appearance of the new Pharmacopoeia. The volume is the work of an authority who has succeeded in arranging the information he seeks to impart in a manner easily comprehensible by the student, for whom the volume can be recommended.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By J. Mitchell Bruce, M.D., and Walter J. Dilling, M.B. Tenth Edition. Pp. xiv. + 645. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1915. Price 6s. 6d. net.

The issue of a new British Pharmacopoeia has necessitated the production of a revised edition of this well-known students' text-book of Materia Medica. It was first issued in 1884, and is now in its fifty-eighth thousand, a record which can have few parallels in medical literature. The new "Mitchell Bruce," with its familiar red cover, will, we are sure, be as popular as ever. The revision has been carefully and thoroughly performed.

A Treatise on Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Rakhaladas Ghosh, L.M.S., Calcutta. Edited by B. H. Deare, I.M.S., with the assistance of Birendra Nath Ghosh, F.R.F.P.S., Glasgow. Sixth Edition. Pp. xii. + 698. Calcutta: Hillon & Co. 1915. Price Rs. 5, or 7s. 6d. net.

This text-book of Materia Medica, for Indian students, has been thoroughly revised and brought into accord with the new British Pharmacopoeia. The classification of the drugs is now according to their pharmacology, instead of, as formerly, alphabetical, and unimportant non-official remedies have been deleted. The volume is a thoroughly trustworthy handbook of materia medica, and contains an excellent account of the more generally approved vaccines and serums, for the revision of which Major E. D. W. Greig, I.M.S., is responsible. We can cordially recommend the work.

The Extra-Pharmacopoeia. By W. H. Martindale, Ph.D., F.C.S.; and W. Wynn Westcott, M.D., D.P.H. Sixteenth Edition. Vol. I., pp. xii. + 1113; Vol. II., pp. viii. + 469. London: H. K. Lewis. 1915. Vol. I., 14s. net; Vol. II., 7s. net.

As was to be anticipated, the issue of a new British Pharmacopoeia has involved the production of a new edition of the Extra-Pharma-
New Editions

copoeia. The revision has been very thorough, and extends far beyond the limits demanded by the 1914 British Pharmacopoeia. The plan of dividing the book into two volumes, first adopted in the 1914 British Pharmacopoeia, has been adhered to, and the use of a slightly larger type is a distinct improvement. The trail of war has left its mark on this, like other activities, for the authors have in many instances given the British Patent numbers of proprietary substances originating in Germany, in order to facilitate reference by those contemplating their home manufacture. We never look at a new edition of the Extra-Pharmacopoeia without wonder at the multi-farrious nature of its contents and at the industry of its authors. It is indispensable for reference and unique as a source of information.

A Manual of Chemistry. By Arthur P. Luff, M.D., F.R.C.P.; and Hugh C. H. Candy, B.A. Fifth Edition. Pp. xix. + 660. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1915. Price 8s. 6d. net.

The new edition of this excellent students' manual of chemistry in the main resembles its predecessors, but has been thoroughly revised. The sections on ionisation and electrolysis have been expanded, and the chapter on volumetric analysis has been extended to include the volumetric aqueous solutions of the B. P. (1914). The fact that one of the authors is a physician ensures that the requirements of the medical student are adequately kept in view, and the result is a compact, excellent text-book.

A Text-Book of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. By Professor John Glaister, M.D., D.P.H., F.R.S.E., etc. Third Edition. Pp. xv. + 822. With 138 Illustrations. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1915. Price 15s. net.

We do not wonder that a third edition of Professor Glaister's well-known work has been called for. In the majority of text-books on this subject the legal aspect receives inadequate treatment at the hands of the medical author, and often when we consult such books of reference we find that they afford little guidance. It is far otherwise with the volume under review, for, if possible, it must appeal even more to the lawyer than to the medical practitioner on account of the very full treatment of the legal aspect of the various subjects. While the author has rearranged some chapters and abbreviated others, he has not found it possible to keep the work within its former limits, and has had to increase it by some 58 pages. An interesting account of the General Medical Council, its statutory powers and penal resolutions, has been incorporated.
A Handbook of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. By William A. Brend, M.A. (Camb.), M.B., B.Sc. (Lond.). Second Edition. London: Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd. Price 8s. 6d.

This neat and compact volume only aspires to aid students in passing their examinations. In addition a chapter on the law relating to medical practice has been embodied. The matter contained in this book is excellent. In order to conserve space, illustrative cases have been omitted, but everyone will not agree that that is a good feature. We have gone carefully over the various chapters and can safely say that the teaching is sound and reliable, and can therefore be studied with every confidence that the knowledge acquired will serve the purpose of the author. As has already been indicated, the publishers have done their work with their accustomed care.

A Manual for Midwives. By C. Nepean Longridge, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Eng.); and John Bright Banister, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Edin.). Second Edition. Pp. 339. With 51 Illustrations. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1915. Price 3s. 6d.

A second edition of this manual for midwives has just been issued, and it has been rearranged and partly rewritten. It has been expressly written for the use of midwives, and Chapter I. forms a short but clear and descriptive account of the pelvic organs, and contains no more anatomy than the midwife really requires.

The type throughout is exceedingly good, the headings being in a bold type, which helps to make the text easily followed. Though a book on midwifery, we are glad the authors have included a chapter on cancer of the uterus, recognising the enormous importance of every midwife doing something to check the waste of life which results from ignorance of the early symptoms of this disease. A chapter is devoted to the rules of the Central Midwives Board, but what is even better is the fact that some of these are discussed throughout the book, under the subjects to which they belong. As a book for the instruction of midwives we think it one of the best which has yet appeared.

Medical Electricity, Röntgen Rays, and Radium. By Sinclair Tousey. Second Edition. Pp. 1219. With 798 Illustrations. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co. 1915. Price 35s. net.

Tousey's first edition is a well-known standard work on medical electricity. It was published in 1910, and since then there has been voluminous literature, and many fresh discoveries in this branch of medical science. The second edition, just published, brings the work up to date, and although it contains only a hundred additional pages,
it leaves out nothing of importance in the advance which has been made during the intervening five years. The chapter on the application of condenser discharge for electro-diagnosis has been re-written with advantage. Diathermy is well explained, with changes which occur in the tissues during its application, and the several uses to which this modality may be put in connection with electrical treatment.

Little advance seems to have been made in the X-ray diagnosis of pulmonary phthisis, and the same dicta as laid down five years ago are simply re-stated. There is a new chapter added on “Precautions against X-ray Injuries,” accompanied by a beautifully coloured print of the author’s own hand, showing X-ray dermatitis in process of cure by means of radium. Sinusoidal currents, intensifying screens, and new X-ray tubes are noted. The addition of tabular classification of electric methods, effects, and uses is an improvement.

It is a complete work from the purely scientific standpoint, and a valuable addition to our literature on the subject of medical electricity and Röntgen rays.

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_Treatment of Tuberculosis and Lupus with Oleum Allii._ By W. C. Minchin, M.D. Second Edition. Pp. xii. + 114. With 8 Plates. London: Bailliere, Tindall & Cox. 1915. Price 5s. net.

This little volume has increased considerably in size since it was first issued. Its author’s belief in the efficacy of oleum allii has, if possible, increased in a similar degree. We should rejoice if all his claims for this remedy, even in advanced cases of tuberculosis, had been substantiated by our own experience in a series of cases.

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_An Index of Symptoms, with Diagnostic Methods._ By Ralph Winnington Leftwich, M.D. Fifth Edition. Pp. 516. 14 Illustrations. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

In this work the plan is taken of making symptoms form the headings instead of the usual plan of grouping symptoms under the headings of diseases. It is intended as a book of reference, and will probably be of most use for suggesting clinical possibilities in diagnosis. In going over it one is impressed with the remarkable thoroughness and care with which the author has done his work. The amount of labour entailed in its production must have been very great.