stating that the General Medical Council would give no
pronouncement on the general principle, but only on a
concrete case. Regarding the training of midwives in un-
authorised institutes, the Council would take no action in the
matter. After discussion, the report was adopted and the
committee thanked.

DR. GRAHAM TAYLOR gave notes of a case of tubercular
meningitis. The patient was a child of 6 months, who had
at first no symptoms, except slight looseness of the bowels,
lassitude, and a dislike to being disturbed. The temperature
was normal, there was no spasm or rigidity of the legs, and
no evidence of enlarged glands. Two days afterwards the
patient developed a definite squint, and shortly afterwards
died. Dr. Taylor informed Dr. Chalmers, who had some
cerebro-spinal fluid withdrawn, which was injected into a
rabbit, which died in three weeks from general tuberculosis.
Dr. Taylor stated that he had seen two similar cases in
Professor Schlossmann's clinique in Dresden, and in both of
these there was evidence of tubercular infection in the
cerebro-spinal fluid. The first thing Schlossmann does in
the case of a child with no very definite symptoms, but with
marked lassitude, is to withdraw some cerebro-spinal fluid.

REVIEW.

Clinical Manual for the Study of Diseases of the Throat.
By JAMES WALKER DOWNIE, M.B., F.F.P.S.G. Second
Edition. Glasgow: James MacLehose & Sons. 1909.

We congratulate Dr. Downie on the appearance of a second
edition of his excellent Clinical Manual of Diseases of the
Throat. The present edition has been revised and largely
rewritten to bring the subject-matter up to date regarding
the newer methods of diagnosis and treatment.

The author uses the term "throat" in its fullest sense, and
includes diseases of the fauces, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and
larynx. The diseases of the nose are omitted, except in so
far as incidental reference to them is necessary as associated
conditions.
The manual is rightly called "clinical." It is a record of the author's large clinical experience. Under the different headings, various methods of treatment are described, but the author points out what, in his experience, is the best method, and he quotes numerous illustrative cases to emphasise this point. Thus the book is of great value. It is full of practical hints and suggestions, which the reader will have difficulty in finding in any other text-book.

It is well written throughout, and the chapters on syphilis, tuberculosis, and diphtheria are specially interesting.

The excellent illustrations are a feature of the book. There are 17 plates (the majority of which are beautifully coloured) and 85 illustrations in the text. The final chapter in the book contains formulæ for topical application.

It is one of the best manuals on diseases of the throat that we have read, and we most cordially recommend it to the student and general practitioner.

The Surgery of the Ear. By Samuel J. Kopetzky, M.D.
London: Rebman, Limited.

Nothing could more clearly show the advances that have been made in aural surgery than the fact that these advances have necessitated a book to embody our knowledge of the surgery of the ear.

The present volume is well got up, and the arrangement is admirable. A chapter is devoted to each of the different subjects discussed— I, Operations on the external auditory canal; II, Paracentesis; III, Aural polyps; IV, Operations to improve hearing in dry middle ear lesions; V, Ossiculectomy; VI, The simple mastoid operation; VII, The radical mastoid operation; VIII, The surgery of the labyrinth; IX, Operations on the blood-vessels; X, The surgery of the meninges; XI, Surgery of otitic cerebral and otitic cerebellar abscess; XII, Paralysis of the facial nerve; XIII, Lumbar puncture; XIV, Ventricular puncture.

From this table of contents the wide field covered will be apparent. The chapter opens with a short but interesting historical sketch, then the surgical anatomy of the part is gone over, the indications and contra-indications to the operations, the operations themselves are fully described, and the various steps are easily followed by the help of numerous plates. Then follows, what is especially valuable, a short account of errors in technique.
The book betokens wide reading and extensive practical experience. The author favours radical methods of treatment and yet tempered by a judicious conservatism. This is apparent from his remarks on the findings at the mastoid operation. “Erosions of the semicirculars [canals?] should be carefully noted, but not probed; such cases demand careful watching to recognize the first signs of intralabyrinthine involvement. We advise against probing such erosions, because of the possibility of thus breaking down protective adhesions which, if left undisturbed, may save the labyrinth from general infection” (p. 111). Again, “An opening discovered in the semicircular canal should be left undisturbed until symptoms referable to the lesion make themselves evident. . . . I have repeatedly noted such defects, inflammatory fistulæ, and yet these cases fully recovered without any treatment after complete radical removal of the principal suppurating foci” (p. 145). With these conclusions most operating surgeons in this country would agree. The author lays down the lines very clearly when operative opening of the labyrinth is indicated.

Following each chapter is a bibliography of the subject discussed, but we confess to a feeling of disappointment that there is not more reference to British workers.

We recommend the book. It is what it claims to be, a practical guide in operating, and it will be found invaluable by the student, practitioner, and specialist.

The Treatment of Disease. The Address in Medicine before the Ontario Medical Association, Toronto, 3rd June, 1909, by William Osler, M.D., F.R.S. London: Henry Frowde. 1909.

Whatever the theme Dr. Osler chooses to descant upon—whether a “Linacre” lecture or a disquisition on “Immortality”—he is always deserving of our most serious attention, and that not only on account of the general saneness of his views and his large and varied culture, but also for the individual charm of his style. In these respects the subject under review is no exception.

His address, “The Treatment of Disease,” is divided into three parts. The first is a historical survey of the progress of medicine in the past. The second discusses more fully the great revolution which the recent advances in the sciences of pathology and bacteriology have made in modern medicine,
with the consequent divorcement of drugs; and here, he utters an indignant and much needed protest against the pseudo-science contained in the pernicious advertising literature of certain drug manufacturers. In the third part, which deals more directly with the treatment of disease as an art, he has some exceedingly weighty and pregnant remarks on the present much debated subject of medical education, contending that, to make true and capable practitioners of medicine, there should be less lecturing of students to death and far more practical clinical teaching.

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A Dictionary of Medical Treatment, for Students and Junior Practitioners. By Arthur Latham, M.A., M.D. Oxon., M.A. Cantab., F.R.C.P. Lond. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1908.

This little book has the merit of being concise without stultifying the main object of its publication. The treatment of disease is based on the medicinal, dietetic, and climatic methods now recognised. Artificial feeding of children and vaccine therapy are also included in the scope of the work. The author considers that the difficulty of writing a book of this nature has been met by the adoption of a somewhat dogmatic style, but we can see no objection to the method which he adopts in the presentation of his subject. We have reviewed books of greater pretension and length which have more of the ipse dixit ring about them than this. It says a great deal for the author that he has been able to put so much information into so small a compass, and that his efforts have made this a very readable book. We can confidently recommend this book to students and junior practitioners in the full assurance that it will supply them, at a cost of little trouble, with up-to-date treatment of most medical diseases.

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Aids to Medicine. By Bernard Hudson, M.D. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1909.

The writer of this notice once asked a late physician of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, "What compendium of the practice of medicine do you recommend?" "I would recommend you to make one for yourself," was the reply. So far, we have
kept this in mind as good advice, and now find an indexed note-book of some assistance in regular work. It is true that the patient has to be studied, with all his mental and physical peculiarities; but, after all, there are routine proceedings in the practice of medicine, and the wise physician will do what his own observation and the recorded experience of others will appear to suggest as difficulties arise.

This book of 250 pages ought never to exclude from study works like those of the late Sir Thomas Watson, Drs. Aitken and Tanner, Chambers, Bennet, Billing, Murchison, and Williams, and the up-to-date productions of living authors; but a student wishing to revise for an examination, or a practitioner desirous to refresh his memory for practice, will find here a digest that is worth consulting. There is certainly no waste of words.

An interleaved edition for young men, suitable for further notes, would make the little volume a ready help in time of trouble and hurry. In the course of ten years a personally enriched compendium of this kind would become a treasure.

The Practical Medicine Series. Vols. I and VI: General Medicine. Edited by Frank Billings, M.D., and J. H. Salisbury, M.D. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. 1908. (Glasgow: G. Gillies & Co. 1908.)

This series, some volumes of which have been already noticed in the Glasgow Medical Journal, is composed of ten volumes, forming an annual review of all the branches of medicine and surgery. The subject of general medicine is exhaustively dealt with in the two volumes before us, which give in abstract a very complete review of the medical literature of the year. They will be found exceedingly useful as reference works to those desirous of bringing their reading up to date. The volumes are of a convenient size, easily held in the hand, and adequately illustrated.

Practical Gynaecology. By Netta Stewart and James Young, M.B. Edinburgh and London: Oliver & Boyd. 1909.

While the former edition of this work was a useful little handbook for nurses, the present greatly enlarged edition
is a marked improvement. The book now forms one of the best manuals of practical gynaecology for nurses and students, and is so ably written that it will be read with pleasure and profit by any medical practitioner who is interested in the diseases of women. In accordance with the designed scope of the work, the authors have omitted the details of the various operative procedures, but they have described fully and accurately the chief methods of examination, the preparations for, and the after-treatment of, the different operations, and the various non-operative measures, such as vaginal and intra-uterine douching, the vaginal tampon, the cantharides blister, the use of the catheter, &c., which are of such frequent use in gynaecological treatment, and yet receive but scant attention in the majority of text-books. In addition to 4 full-page plates, there are 92 illustrations in the text, and at the end there are both a glossary and an index. One little item of importance has been inadvertently omitted in the section on the use of the glycerin tampon, namely, the necessity of first removing the residual douche-lotion from the vagina, either by swabbing or by causing the patient to sit or stand upright.

Home Nursing. By Isabel Macdonald. London: Macmillan & Co., Limited. 1909.

The advantage of much experience in the teaching of nursing to the laity is evident in the style, scope, and simplicity of this book. Its form suggests that the authoress prefers the direct address, as in lecturing, and probably that style is more acceptable to those for whom this work is written. All of the commoner ailments are discussed, lessons in hygiene and ventilation are given, and the book contains many recipes for invalid cookery. It is well worth the modest price of half a crown. The absence of an index, even where the table of contents is fairly full, should be rectified in a subsequent edition.

Operative Nursing and Technique. By Charles P. Childe, B.A., F.R.C.S.Eng. London: Bailliere, Tindall & Cox. 1909.

The importance of educating nurses in the principles and practice of surgical cleanliness has called forth a number of books devoted to that purpose. The subject of this notice
deals very fairly with the general subjects of sepsis, anti-sepsis, and asepsis. The author's ideas of the necessary precautions in surgical practice are detailed in full, to the exclusion of other methods. In a book addressed to "nurses, dressers, house surgeons, &c.,” it seems unfortunate so to limit their instruction. Nurses in "homes" and in private practice require a much more extensive knowledge of the preparation of patient, ligatures, sutures, instruments, and dressings in order that they may be able to adapt their work to the practice of any surgeon.

The expositions are clear and free from unnecessary technicalities. The style and arrangement of the book are good, it is well printed on good paper, and there is a satisfactory index.

_Suture of Arteries: An Experimental Research._ By E. Archibald Smith, M.B., Ch.B.Vict., F.R.C.S. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1909.

THE subject of suture of arteries, while not new, is one which has received scant attention from surgeons. In this little book Mr. Archibald Smith presents us with a very complete purview of the history and literature of the subject, but, in addition, he submits his own work. After experimenting with various methods of suture, he has evolved what seems to be a sound technique, although, as he admits, his material is not sufficient on which to generalise.

The chief difficulty in the practical employment of suture is the likelihood of thrombosis. The author considers that complete thrombosis is principally caused by infection; but that a microscopical thrombus is unavoidable in, and even favourable to, the healing process.

Another possible result of suture is the formation of aneurysm; but the author shows that in the scar there is new formation of the elastic and muscular elements, and if this be confirmed by future investigations the likelihood of aneurysm formation may be looked on as small.

The various methods of suture are shown by clearly-drawn illustrations, the histological appearances are represented by reproductions of photo-micrographs, and the author's experiments are given in tabular form at the end of the volume, which is completed by a bibliography and an index.

This is a good piece of research, and future writers in this field will do well to study carefully Mr. Smith's monograph.