NEW BOOKS

**Ethics for Modern Nurses.** By KATHERINE A. DENSFORD, M.A., R.N., and M. S. EVERETT, PH.D. Pp. x+260. London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1946. Price 9s. net.

This book was written to enable the young nurse to make a satisfactory adjustment to her new surroundings and to help her to formulate a workable philosophy of life. It aims at teaching basic principles rather than specific rules of conduct. It might also serve as an introduction to a study of social science. The book is admirably written, it contains a vast amount of common sense and should satisfactorily fulfil the purpose for which it is intended.

**Early Ambulation and Related Procedures in Surgical Management.** By DANIEL J. LEITHAUSEN. Pp. x+232, with 36 illustrations. Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.: Charles C. Thomas. 1946. Price $4.50.

To anyone interested in the practice of early ambulation after surgical operations this monograph will be invaluable. The reflex functional disturbances which follow abdominal operations, and which the author describes as the laparotomy syndrome, are described, and the causes and prevention of post-operative complications—respiratory, circulatory, gastro-intestinal, etc., are very fully discussed. The author describes the technique he has adopted and deals with the type of incision, method of wound closure, anaesthesia, pre- and post-operative treatment, etc.

The advantages claimed are early restoration of well-being and activity, a striking absence of post-operative complications of all kinds and a greatly shortened sojourn in hospital.

The results quoted are impressive.

**Year Book of Neurology, Psychiatry and Neuro-Surgery.** Edited by HANS H. RUSE, M.D., MABEL G. MASTEN, M.D., NOLAN D. C. LEWIS, M.D., and PERCIVAL BAILEY, M.D. Chicago: The Year Book Publications. 1946. Price 21s. net.

This is a most valuable annual compendium of information, regrouped this year by the substitution of Neuro-Surgery for Endocrinology, a reflection of the changing ideas of specialisation and obviously a more convenient arrangement. Those who are accustomed to using this book await its publication each year with eager anticipation, since they have long learned to depend on the insight with which its subject matter is chosen. Present-day restrictions in this country make one’s wait tantalisingly long, yet patience is rewarded in the remarkably convenient form in which so much valuable information is made available. An excellent index and some hundred-odd carefully selected illustrations add to the attraction that this moderately priced volume will always have.

**A Practical Handbook of Psychiatry for Students and Nurses.** By LOUIS MINSKI, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M. Pp. 128. London: Wm. Heinemann, Medical Books, Ltd. 1946. Price 6s. net.

A book of this size must be extremely difficult to write owing to the necessary amount of compression. In this instance it is so sketchy and so lacking in practical detail that it fails in its purpose, and could not possibly be satisfying either to students or nurses even for the mere purpose of passing examinations. Furthermore, many of the dogmatic assertions which are incorporated are misleading and open to severe criticism; for instance, that “insulin shock therapy has completely altered the outlook in schizophrenia.” Would that it were so.
**Anatomical Terms: Their Origin and Derivation.** By E. J. Field, M.D., M.S., and R. J. Harrison, M.A., M.B., B.Chir. Pp. 165. Cambridge: Heffer. 1947. Price 7s. 6d. net.

Within the limits mentioned by the authors in the Preface, this little book should prove a valuable aid to most medical students in the understanding of anatomical terminology. It is perhaps unfortunate that, in a few cases, confusion may arise because special connotations are obscured (e.g. “chyle” and “chyme” both appearing simply as “juice”); while other derivations are expanded with detail irrelevant to the purpose.

The book, which is well set forth and of a convenient size for pocket reference, is a useful addendum to a standard medical dictionary.

**Current Therapies of Personality Disorders.** Edited by Bernard Glueck, M.D. Pp. v+296. London: William Heinemann Ltd. 1947. Price 17s. 6d. net.

The series of papers comprising this book were presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychopathological Association in 1945. The contributions were thought to present such a combined whole that they have been brought together in this particular way. All of the contributions reach a very high standard indeed, and give a very good idea of psychiatric practice and treatment as it is developing to-day. In addition, however, and even more importantly, the general belief is expressed that the psychiatry of the future will exercise a greater influence on world affairs. It is refreshing to find all of the material presented in a well-reasoned and moderate manner. This is a book which can be recommended.

**Physical Treatment of the Injuries of the Brain and Allied Nervous Disorders.** By K. M. Hern, M.C.S.P., Dipl. of L.P.T.C. Pp. iii+94, with 34 illustrations. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1947. Price 10s. 6d. net.

The ultimate aim of all physiotherapy is restoration of function. This statement may seem a platitude, but in his foreword to this volume Sir Charles P. Symonds emphasises the often overlooked attention to detail which, in fact, is the justification Miss Hern has in setting forth her unique experiences and the methods she has so successfully developed.

Naturally much use is made of photographs and these are excellent, which, coupled with the emphasis laid upon a proper balance of all the factors in a given case, the physical and psychological, the social and economical, make the real value of the work. To all who are interested in rehabilitation and occupational therapy this study, emerging from extensive personal experience, will make a ready appeal as a pattern to follow.

**Bovine Tuberculosis, Including a Contrast with Human Tuberculosis.** By John Francis, B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S. Pp. 220, illustrated. London: Staples Press Ltd. 1947. Price 25s. net.

This book contains a great deal of information about tuberculosis in the bovine. The information is drawn from many sources and is presented in a well documented form. It makes interesting reading, particularly from the point of view of comparative pathology, for those interested in the human disease, and for the veterinarian it provides an exhaustive discussion of bovine tuberculosis and the pathological and administrative problems which it entails. The reference section contains a list of 411 publications which alone are a tribute to the work which the author has brought to bear on its production and which are of great value to those wishing to secure more detailed information. The book is written in an easy style. The author, even in his statistics, is never tedious, but it is a pity that in places the writing is marred by bad punctuation and impossible sentences which are not in keeping with the general excellence of the work.