NOTES

At the annual meeting of the College, held on 18th October 1944, the following Office-bearers were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Professor R. W. Johnstone, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.O.G.; Vice-President, Mr J. W. Struthers; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr K. Paterson Brown; President's Council, Mr James M. Graham, Sir John Fraser, Bart., K.C.V.O., Dr G. Ewart Martin, Mr Francis E. Jardine, Mr W. Quarry Wood, Mr Walter Mercer.

Representative on the General Medical Council.—Mr Henry Wade, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Convener of Museum Committee.—Mr W. Quarry Wood.

Librarian.—Dr Douglas Guthrie.

The following candidates were elected Fellows of the College after having passed the requisite examination:—Hjalmar Hubert Atkinson, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond. 1934; Philip Hulme Beales, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond. 1939; Hugh Michael MacCarthy, L.R.C.P. & S. Ireland 1942; Mary Savory, M.B., B.C.H. Univ. Camb. 1939.

The examinations of the Board of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow have just concluded at Edinburgh. The following passed the Final Examinations, and were granted the diploma of L.R.C.P. Edin., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.R.F.P. & S. Glasg.:—Jonathan Emmanuel Bossman, Enid Winifred Brett, James Young Brown, Aline Lindsay Buchanan, John Stuart Gibson Clark, William Hodge Dempster, Thomas William Duff, Robert James Frame, James Gemmell, Phillip Harris, James Dickson Hope, Bernard Douglas Jacobson, Leo Jaffe, Ian Sewell Leecher, Joseph Maizel, Gordon Paterson, Maurice Roy Pitts, Maurice Michael Salzmann, Ellis Shenken, Herman Shilling, Kenneth Sutherland Stewart, Richard Thomas, Josef Shalem Tugendreich, Alfred Lancelot Walcott, Robert Sibbald Walker; and the following graduate of a recognised foreign University was also admitted a Licentiate:—Norbert Klein, M.D. Univ. Prague.

NEW BOOKS

Polyglot Glossary of Communicable Diseases. By Dr Y. Biraud, M.S., M.D., M.P.H. Pp. 356. London: Allen & Unwin. 1944. Price 4s.

Dr Biraud points out the difficulties in recognising diseases in other languages. Typhus, for example, in Britain and France is the exanthem, in Germany it means typhoid fever, while Belgian and French-speaking Swiss use it for enteric. Such examples could be multiplied. Even the use of Latin does not do away with such difficulties.

This book has been prepared under the auspices of the League of Nations to make the translation of diagnoses readily available. Equivalent names are listed in parallel columns and refer to some twenty-four European languages.

This painstaking work should serve a useful purpose.
The Foot. By Frederic Wood Jones. Pp. iv+329, with 150 illustrations. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1944. Price 25s. net.

This new monograph of Wood Jones, in some measure supplementary to his earlier monograph The Principles of Anatomy as seen in the Hand, has been eagerly awaited and appears to have been worth waiting for. The author deals especially with principles, as in his earlier volume, but where these are pre-eminently displayed in the structure and function of the foot they are dealt with in greater detail.

It is a most fascinating book to read and everything is dealt with from a new angle and a much more interesting one than could have been imagined in a book on the anatomy of the foot. A living description is given of each part as it develops and functions in the body.

The introduction deals with the method of study of the foot and some attempt is then made to solve the problem of terminology. A brief summary of the phylogenetic story of the human foot, hitherto hopelessly involved with the question of the origin of man himself, is given. The developmental stages of the foot are fully dealt with in a most interesting manner, since it is realised that this is a part of the human body whose ontogenetic story might possibly retell the history of man’s evolution. Thereafter the fascias, bones, joints, muscles and movements are fully described. In a later chapter the author enters into the controversy on arches of the foot. He believes that the ligaments are at least as important as the muscles in maintaining the arches and he emphasises that the long arch is plastic and mobile.

The book is well illustrated with many line drawings by the author himself. This is a splendid monograph and quite the most fascinating that has ever been written on the subject.

Recent Progress in Psychiatry. Edited by G. W. T. H. Fleming. Pp. 509. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1944. Price 30s.

This is the first of a proposed series of five-yearly special numbers of the Journal of Mental Science. Psychiatric work published in 1938-42, and in some instances the first half of 1943, is reviewed. The enormous amount of new work described shows how rapidly psychiatry is advancing. There are twenty-seven separate chapters by well-known writers. The importance of this book is great—it must be read by every psychiatrist, and many workers in other branches of medicine will find in it some references and abstracts of interest.

Industrial Medicine. Edited by Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bart., and Alan Moncrieff. “The Practitioner” Handbooks. Pp. 202, with 5 illustrations. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode. 1944. Price 16s. net.

This latest addition to the Practitioner Handbook series deals with a hitherto neglected field of growing importance. Sir David Munro introduces the subject in an unorthodox fashion by stressing its organic relationship to general practice, rather than by demarcation of the boundaries of this new science. Seventeen experts contribute chapters covering problems of industrial diseases and of general hygiene and administration. After-care and rehabilitation and its guiding principles are outlined. In the last chapter legal requirements are plainly set out and form a useful guide for those who have to deal with factory workers.

It was difficult for the authors in these short surveys to give more than broad outlines, but certain chapters such as those on toxic anaemia, backstrain, nutritional problems and miners’ nystagmus succeed in conveying all the essentials. The illustrations are perhaps too scanty and it would be an improvement from a general practitioner’s point of view to have the histological pictures replaced by photographs of clinical conditions.

Taken as a whole, this compact volume supplies a welcome bird’s-eye view of the problems involved in industrial medicine.
Medical Photography. By T. A. Longmore, A.R.P.S., M.S.R. Pp. 432+160 illustrations. London and New York: The Focal Press. 1944. Price 25s.

The earliest part of this book is introductory and describes how the photographic image is formed and how it is made visible. Section One deals with X-ray photography, describes the apparatus required, the materials used and the processing of these until the photograph is complete. Section Two deals with the clinical application of ordinary photography and follows the same plan as the previous section. Then follows a section on special techniques, mass miniature radiography, colour photography, stereoscopic photography and other special branches. The last section deals with formulae for various processes.

There is unnecessary repetition in the sections dealing with processing, while it might have been better to make the negative complete before passing to the making of the print or lantern slide.

In the part dealing with the nature of light, refraction is discussed, but there is no indication given of the nature of light. The reviewer does not agree that there is little call for a reflex camera in clinical photography; he has found it most useful. No indication is given as to which process of colour photography—additive or subtractive—is better.

The book is too elementary in some parts in these days of almost universal photography and some revision and pruning would improve its value.

NEW EDITIONS

The History of Miners' Diseases. By G. Rosen, M.D. Pp. xii+490, with 19 illustrations. New York: Schuman's. 1943. Price $8.50.

The history of occupational diseases reflects the history of industry and of labour, some of the most important chapters in the history of civilisation. It illustrates dramatically the development of the industrial revolution and the accompanying reforms gained by the labouring classes. Mining has a continuous history of several thousand years and has always been a very hazardous occupation.

Dr Rosen begins his survey in prehistoric times when palaeolithic man mined for flint, ochre and salt, and follows the progress of the industry to the end of the nineteenth century. He has sought to trace the growth of knowledge concerning the occupational diseases which afflict miners and to correlate this knowledge with the advances of medical science and with the varying social and economic conditions that have contributed to the development of these diseases. Naturally, the early sources of information are scanty, but from the time of Paracelsus fuller records are available.

The first authentic mention of coal mining in Britain occurs about 1200 in the records of Holyrood and Newbattle Abbeys, where reference is made to the digging of coal on the south shore of the Forth. Scottish mining receives considerable attention in the book. In Scotland the miner was a serf, bound to the mines, and this servdom continued till as late as 1799.

Scientific attention to miners' diseases can hardly be said to have begun before the earlier part of the nineteenth century, and Scottish physicians played a large part in their elucidation. J. C. Gregory, John and William Thomson, J. Y. Simpson and many others contributed to this knowledge. The author concludes that the investigation in the Scottish coalfields must be regarded as the first really modern work on miners' diseases. The investigations were largely pathological, and it was not till much later that prophylaxis and therapy received serious attention. A final chapter deals with the progress of legislation in relation to these diseases.

A most fascinating story of medical progress.