REVIEWS.

NEW BOOKS.

A Pocket Book of Ophthalmology. By A. J. Ballantyne, M.D., F.R.F.P.S.G. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1920. (5s. 6d. net.)

This Pocket Book is specially devised for students to use in their first course of ophthalmology. The book is interleaved to allow of diagrams and further notes being added. The edition is neat and clearly printed, and we can recommend its use to the student as an aid in the lecture room and clinic. A very full index is added.

The House-Fly: Its Life-History and Practical Measures for its Suppression. By Major E. E. Austin, D.S.O. Economic Series No. 1a. London: Trustees of the British Museum. 1920. (1s. 6d.)

Hewitt writes somewhere that when a few years ago he came to study the life-history of the house-fly, he found that very little was known about it. Yet of recent times many books have been written on the house-fly—one standard work devotes sixteen pages to the description of its proboscis alone—and most of us are aware what a shockingly insanitary insect it is. During the war it was the bête d’âversion of the sanitary officer, and much pains was devoted to reducing its numbers. Graham-Smith records that the Mayor of the capital of one of the United States was elected almost solely because of the strong stand he had taken in advocating anti-fly measures. This little book has been written by Major E. E. Austin, a recognised authority on flies, for the Trustees of the British Museum. It gives in comparatively short space the life-cycle of the fly, its connection with the spread of disease, and the methods approved
for compassing its destruction. "The pertinacity with which the creature returns again and again to the same spot, in spite of opposition and even attack, was perhaps the reason why in Ancient Egypt successful generals were rewarded with a golden collar bearing colossal silhouettes of house-flies; and this characteristic must from infancy onwards repeatedly have drawn the attention of every one to the common fly." The author insists on two golden rules—the first, that it is better to prevent flies from breeding than to kill their offspring, and the second, that no sanitary system can be regarded as efficient where flies have access to material containing the germs of disease. Two substances are considered specially suitable for killing maggots in horse manure, their favourite breeding place. These are borax and powdered hellebore. Chloride of lime is useless. The use of traps, and the preparation of "tanglefoot" and sprays are also described. In concluding, Major Austin remarks that "the house-fly is a creature of disgusting and dangerous habits, no more to be tolerated inside our dwellings or upon our meal tables than a plague-stricken rat." This is the most useful small book with which we are acquainted for a description of practical measures for the suppression of the house-fly.

The Principles of Anatomy as seen in the Hand. By Frederic Wood Jones, D.Sc., M.B., B.S.Lond. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1920. (15s. net.)

This work is based on lectures delivered by the author to officers of the R.A.M.C. at the Special Military Surgical Hospital, Shepherds’ Bush. But it is also partly the result of attempting to teach medical students such principles of anatomy "as may be expected to interest them." How far the author has succeeded in his aim will quickly be appreciated by anyone into whose hands the book may happen to fall. The matter is arranged in twenty-seven chapters, each of which deals with some aspect of the anatomy of the hand, and each of which is brimful of interesting matter well treated. This part of the body "has been selected as a limited and self-contained study from which the student may learn more of principles and less
of details than is usual in complete text-books of anatomy.” In the opening chapter the author impresses on us the need for cultivating the faculty of observation. The instruments of precision in use at the present day rather tend to cast into the background the older type of physician possessing powers of observation comparable with those of a Sherlock Holmes combined with a Boy Scout; but the author holds, and rightly, that “the man who seeks success in Medicine does so in vain if he remains unobservant.” He refers to the casual fashion in which some artists regard hands and feet, and cites as an example Rembrandt’s famous “Lesson in Anatomy,” in which the flexor group is shown arising from the radial condyle of the humerus. In support of his statement he reproduces, as a frontispiece to the volume, the well-known picture. The succeeding chapters show that the author practises what he preaches. They are one and all packed full of the results of observation. But we are not presented merely with a dull collection of facts concerning the hand. Other regions of the body are invoked; and the phylogenetic bearing of the facts is duly expounded. In this connection we would specially refer the reader to the chapters on pentadactylism and the “formulae” of digits, phalanges, &c. Perhaps the chapter on the joints is as good an example as may be cited of the author’s treatment of his subject. The embryology of joints is briefly outlined, then the various types of joint (synchondrosis, syndesmosis, &c.), depending on what is required of the joint, are taken up; and so we are led to the diarthrodial joint, required specially in the hand because of the wide range of movement which it permits. Periosteum and capsule are then considered, the formation of ligaments, and the development of intra-articular fat. The inter-articular fibro-cartilages then come in for a share of attention, and the author points out the difficulty of applying a common morphology to the different structures which form this class. The triangular fibro-cartilage of the wrist-joint is then taken up, and its significance expounded. Next come the articular cartilages the epiphyses, and epiphysial lines, and the nutrient arteries. The remainder of the chapter deals with the chief features of the joints and ligaments of wrist, hand, and fingers. Another example of furnishing the student with “principles” will be found in the consideration of the action of muscles generally (Chapter XV). In this chapter
the subject of muscular action is taken up, and "prime movers," antagonists, "action of paradox," synergics, and fixation muscles are described and explained. Here, as in other chapters, indications of inheritance from arboreal ancestors are remarked upon. This chapter closes with references to re-educating paralysed muscles, as distinct from the "trick movements" by muscles which were never paralysed. This substitution by healthy muscles is elaborated in the following chapters, which deal with the muscles, extrinsic and intrinsic, of the hand. If, after a fairly full repast on the contents of the book, we revert to the author's aim of teaching such principles as "may be expected to interest" his readers, we are struck by the success which has attended his efforts. It cannot fail to be appreciated both by the overburdened undergraduate and by his elder professional brethren whose day of examinations is long since past. Professor Wood Jones here shows us what the teaching of anatomy may be made, and we commend the volume to the attention of all anatomical teachers. We doubt not that the teaching of anatomy in such a fashion would whet the appetites of students so that, like Oliver Twist, they would "ask for more."

Malaria at Home and Abroad. By Lieut.-Colonel S. P. James, M.D., D.P.H. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Limited. 1920. (25s. net.)

At the present time there is need of a book to give in compact form the information necessary for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of malaria. This volume by Lieut.-Colonel James admirably supplies the want. It gives a full account of the various forms of the disease, and of the complications which may arise in its course, with a description of the parasites, and of the mosquitoes which spread them. The sections devoted to the mosquito are especially to be commended, as the information they contain is not readily obtainable from the ordinary medical books. The directions for the dissection of mosquitoes are given with great clearness, and the diagrams and pictures in this part are admirable. The author describes a malarial survey conducted in the Isle of Sheppey in 1917 as an example of the
investigation required in an outbreak of malaria in this country. In the fifteen months prior to the end of 1918, 330 locally contracted cases of malaria were discovered in England. In the chapter on diagnosis Lieut-Colonel James mentions microscopic examination of the blood as the surest and best method of diagnosing the disease. The fact is that in Britain no diagnosis of malaria should be founded on anything else. This not only holds in primary cases, but applies also to those men who have contracted malaria abroad, and are supposed to be relapsing. We do not agree that thin rather than dehæmoglobinised thick films are to be preferred for blood examination. No doubt the parasites are a little more difficult to recognise in thick films, but this difficulty is only an initial one, and the blood can be examined at least twenty times as fast. This is a consideration when several specimens have to be examined, and in addition the examiner is less likely by this method to miss parasites when they are present in small numbers. The important question of treatment is considered in a succinct chapter. The author advises that 30 grains of quinine be given by the mouth daily for five days, and that thereafter the dose be reduced, though quinine should be continued in some form for three months. This treatment is less energetic than that usually recommended, and there is a considerable body of opinion that better results can be got by giving the large daily dose for three weeks before making any reduction in quantity. The author, perhaps wisely, makes no reference to other drugs which have been used, especially in the later stages of malaria. He is to be congratulated on the opportune production of an essentially practical book.

Plastic Surgery of the Face. By H. D. Gillies, C.B.E., F.R.C.S.

London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1920. (£3, 3s. net.)

One of the few beneficial results of the war has been the progress made in certain branches of surgery, in none more than plastic surgery. Mr. Gillies' book is likely to be a classic on this subject. His work was begun in January, 1916, at the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, and continued at Sidcup. The
first chapter is concerned with the principles of plastic surgery, the painstaking and prolonged routine examination of each case, the design of the restoration from within outwards, lining membrane first, then supporting structure, and finally, the skin covering. The author considers that the omission to provide a lining membrane for mucous cavities in the past has been the supreme cause of plastic failures. Much use was made of the Esser epithelial inlay for lining a deepened sulcus. For supporting structure, all foreign bodies, such as metallic plates or injections of wax, were found unsatisfactory; the replacement as far as possible should be in terms of the lost tissues. Cartilage was found to be very satisfactory. The advantages or otherwise of the various forms of skin graft and flap are discussed, and the author's method of improving the blood-supply of a flap by tubing the pedicle described. There is also an article on anaesthesia by Captain Wade. The only criticism one might offer on this chapter is that it is somewhat lacking in detail. In a book such as this, which will be the guide to future workers, no detail, however elementary, should be omitted. Subsequent chapters deal with the repair in special regions, cheek, upper and lower lips and chin, nose and region round the eyes. The various forms of wounds with the appropriate treatment are demonstrated by special cases. A description of the case is given, and this is illustrated by photographs taken before and after operation, and sometimes in intervening stages; also by a diagrammatic drawing showing the method of operation. By these means an enormous variety of wounds in all parts of the face, together with the appropriate treatment, are dealt with. Another chapter by Captain Fry describes the use of prosthetic appliances in relation to plastic surgery. Here is abundant evidence that the plastic surgeon must work in close co-operation with the dental surgeon. In many ways the last brief chapter will be found the most stimulating, as it holds promise of a bright future for plastic surgery in civil cases. To illustrate this one may quote from the author—"Turning to syphilis, as the principal peace-time destroyer of the nose, the author has not yet seen a case which is not amenable to the methods evolved by him during the war;" and again, "These principles are not applicable merely to facial surgery . . . the surgeon may now deal fearlessly with almost any ulcer that can be
excised or rendered clean. Further, it is not too much to say that contractions should not now be allowed to occur after burns.” This book is a valuable record of excellent work, and will form a sound basis for civil surgery. It must, however, be realised that this is a highly specialised form of work, and that, in order to acquire the requisite skill, long and painstaking practice will be necessary. The publishers as well as the author must be congratulated on this book, which has been produced in a most finished style and lavishly illustrated.

_Treatment of the Neuroses._ By Ernest Jones, M.D., M.R.C.P. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1920. (10s. 6d. net.)

This is in many ways a most interesting and readable book, of considerable practical value. Starting with an admirable introductory chapter on the nature and importance of neurotic states, the author goes on to a systematic, if slightly unorthodox, classification of the neuroses, with an account of the symptoms, pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of each type. More than half the book is devoted to hysteria, and under that heading is given, to avoid repetition, a full discussion of psychotherapeutic treatment in general, suggestion, re-education and psycho-analysis being successively dealt with. The indications and advantages, the contra-indications and limitations, of each method are dealt with at length. The arguments are interesting and well worked out (though a good deal is sometimes taken for granted), but the book as a whole is one-sided, giving an impression of skilfully disguised special pleading, as, of course, the author is well known to be the leading British representative of the school of Freud. His exposition of the teaching of that school cannot be said to be entirely convincing on all points. The genius of Freud, and the great value and importance of his work, are undeniable, and may be cordially admitted, but many of his doctrines, while they may be true, are so revolutionary that something more definite in the way of proof of their accuracy is required than is here provided. It simply will not do to charge critics with ignorance or malignity, with dark hints as to unconsciously motivated antipathy. The burden of
proof still lies on those who make the assertions criticised. The author does not apply to psychoanalysis the same acute and penetrating criticism which he directs against other methods. "Freud has shown . . ." becomes a few lines further on, and without further examination of the statement, "Now that we have realised . . .". The distinctions between facts and theories, between facts and the interpretations put upon them, are time and again ignored. Such sweeping and misleading statements as "Everyone who has seriously investigated the facts has confirmed Freud's views," do not inspire confidence. The fact that some of the Freudian theories are unpalatable as well as revolutionary should not negative their general acceptance if they are indeed true, but some more convincing demonstration of their truth than has yet been made may justifiably be demanded. Psychoanalysts cannot reasonably expect us to accept at once such surprising and dogmatic statements as "The source of the morbid fear present in most cases of war neurosis appears to be repressed narcissism"—that is, infantile self-love, which is "genetically related to the usual form of sexuality," or "The essential morbid agent in alcoholism is probably always repressed homosexuality." They may be true, and actual proof may by the nature of the case be difficult, but at present the critics appear to have ground for their attitude. In spite of what we have said, however, the book is to be recommended as a clear and compact review of the subject, biassed though it be, and it deserves the attention of all who have to deal with sufferers from neurotic complaints. There is a full classified bibliography, in which the proportion of German works is noticeably large.

The After-Treatment of Wounds and Injuries. By R. C. Elmslie, M.S., F.R.C.S. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1919. (15s. net.)

This book is an exposition of the author's experiences during two and a half year's work in the Military Orthopaedic Hospital at Shepherd's Bush, and of the principles, methods, and results of treatment founded thereon. The subjects treated of are those classed at the present time as orthopaedic surgery. Thus,
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An Introduction to the Study of Hypnotism. By H. E. Wingfield, M.A., M.D., B.C.Cantab. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1920. (7s. 6d. net.)

This is an interesting and practical little book, the limits of which are exactly indicated in the title. A brief and not very profound theoretical introduction is followed by a clear and full account of the various methods of inducing hypnosis, and of the phenomena characteristic of each of the six stages or degrees of the hypnotic state which the author, with perhaps needless elaboration, differentiates. A chapter is devoted to a description of other phenomena experimentally produced. The section dealing with treatment by hypnotic suggestion is eminently practical and reasonable, based on a very wide experience, and recording many remarkable cases in a manner,
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unfortunately not always found in books on this subject, which is admirably modest and helpful. Other methods of psychotherapy are only briefly referred to. The author recognises that there is a distinct, though limited, sphere for psycho-analysis, and a most interesting part of the book (though the Freidians would laugh it to scorn) is that which records his methods of combining hypnotism with analytic procedures. The book is refreshingly free from discussion or argument; in particular, the Freudian view of the theory and practice of hypnotism is entirely, and perhaps rightly, ignored. But the book is essentially a record of personal experience in experimental and therapeutic work, and the author's views and methods justify themselves in the only final way, by the successful results which have followed their practice. We cordially recommend the book to those interested in the subject.

Aids to Electro-Therapeutics. By J. Magnus Redding, F.R.C.S. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1920. (5s. net.)

This handy little book purports to be a practical guide in the art of electro-therapy. Its object has been well attained by the author, whose style is clear and concise without omission of essential details. The whole, very extensive field of electro-therapeutics, including x-ray and radium therapy, is covered in 196 pages. As the purpose of the book is to serve as a guide, the omission of a bibliography is a serious one. If this were added the little work would serve its purpose admirably.

A Handbook of British Mosquitoes. By William Dickson Lang, M.A., Sc.D. London: Trustees of the British Museum. 1920. (£1.)

We in Glasgow take a somewhat languid interest in mosquitoes, and are inclined to look on them as flies which do not concern us. Yet they are to be met with in hundreds beside Possil Marsh on calm warm summer afternoons. These are Culicine mosquitoes, but Anophelines, which can carry malaria, are also
known in Scotland, and at least one native case of malaria has occurred within the last year. Dr. Lang's book is a British Museum handbook of all the known British mosquitoes, twenty-one species in all. The descriptions are lucid and interesting, and there are many excellent illustrations, including several coloured plates. The study of the mosquito has, of course, been stimulated by its connection with malaria, and it may be of importance to know whether a given mosquito is capable of carrying the disease. This handbook is specially designed to assist in the identification of species, and is admirably adapted for its purpose.

Military Psychiatry in Peace and War. By C. Stanford Read, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Limited. 1920. (10s. 6d. net.)

This book is a general review of the cases of mental disorder occurring in the army during the war. The author was in charge of "D" Block, Netley Hospital, to which all mental cases, from every theatre of war, were sent in the first instance. The number admitted from overseas to this clearing hospital from August, 1914, to May, 1919, was 12,320, so that the author has a wide experience on which to draw, although a very large number of cases were almost immediately dispersed to other centres, the average stay at Netley being only five or six days. The author, however, followed up the subsequent history of 3,000 consecutive admissions, and gives interesting tables relative to their state after twelve months. Dr. Read is a firm believer in the psychogenic origin of the psychoses, and maintains an almost purely psychological viewpoint throughout, dealing in succession with the various classes of mental disorder, and endeavouring to prove and illustrate their psychogenic origin. The opening chapter on "The psychology of the soldier" is thoroughly in the style of the psycho-analytic school. Fear, patriotism, heroism have their roots laid bare, and are so thoroughly explained that in the end they hardly seem worth explaining. The book as a whole, however, is an able and admirable exposition of its own point of view; the style is lucid, and the tone is entirely free from a certain
irritating dogmatism which, for some strange reason, is not infrequent in the discussion of psycho-analytic views. Few, however, will place so small a value as does the author on such factors as exhaustion, trauma, sunstroke, and alcohol in the production of psychoses, and his views on alcoholism in general, and on epilepsy, will hardly be accepted by the majority of practical alienists. The book is one of great interest both to the alienist and to the general physician, and only suffers in common with most of the published writings on war psychoses from the fact that the author did not see his cases at an earlier stage, and under the conditions in which their psychoses originated. It is of interest to note that Dr. Read puts in a plea for the employment of female nurses in the male wards of asylums, and quotes an American authority to support him. Female nurses have, of course, been employed in the male wards of practically every Scottish asylum for many years. The book is well and logically arranged, but an index might have been added with advantage.

Modern Spiritism. By A. T. Schofield, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1920. (3s. 6d. net.)

The author prefers the term "Spiritism" to the more popular "Spiritualism," desiring to retain the latter for "the true Spiritualism, . . . those mysteries of the Unseen that are revealed to us in Scripture." He gives a brief account of the history and phenomena of Spiritism, and suggests possible explanations of the latter. Chapters on necromancy, "possession," second sight and apparitions, and collective hypnosis follow; the dangers and the failures of Spiritism are then discussed, and two closing chapters, which, as the author agrees, are frankly sermonic in tone, deal with the contrast between Spiritism as a religion and the true Spiritualism. The author is strongly opposed to the Spiritist cult, but while he criticises, with good cause, the reasoning of its supporters, it is to be feared that some of his own contentions are open to serious question. Biblical statements were never intended, and are not fitted, to be used as arguments in a scientific discussion, such as this book more or
less purports to be, more especially by one holding the author's views on the subject of the inspiration of Scripture. He exposes the great amount of fraud practised by mediums, referring to one, "the most upright medium ever known, who held the almost unique position of never having been convicted of any fraud." Most unfortunately, this paragon eventually became insane. His conclusion appears to be that while fraud will account for many phenomena, and "the unconscious mind," including telepathy, collective hypnosis, &c., for more, there remains an irreducible minimum which he believes to be the work of malign, non-human spirits, the existence of whom is accepted on Scriptural grounds, and who are by no means the disembodied spirits of the dead. He emphasises the dangers of the cult, the chief of which seems to be the risk of "possession" by evil spirits, upon which subject he makes some rather surprising remarks. "Possession by an evil spirit is tacitly recognised by most of our alienists. There is no large asylum that does not contain one or more of such cases." He admits, however, that "continued possession by an evil spirit nearly always ends in chronic mental disease," and concludes, after all the stories of fraud, that "the fact of possession is at least as well established as any other fact in Spiritism." The style of the book is somewhat ragged; repetition abounds, and several chapters are little more than strings of quotations, some of which are beautifully inconsistent with other quotations from the same writers. The book, while well-intentioned, is uneven and unconvincing. The author's judgment as to the futile, fraudulent, and dangerous nature of Spiritism is probably entirely right, but his reasons for that judgment appear to us very inadequate and doubtful. Unfortunately, it is upon the reasons that he chiefly dwells, with somewhat tiresome emphasis and reiteration.

War Against Tropical Disease. By Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., M.D. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1920. (12s. 6d. net.)

Dr. Balfour describes his book as "Seven sanitary sermons addressed to all interested in tropical hygiene and administration." In the first of these he describes the routine sanitary
duties which have to be carried out by the public health department in a tropical town. The second is an interesting account of a trip made in some of the islands of the West Indies and in the north-west corner of South America, with notes of many diseases which he saw there. "The medical entomology of Salonica" deals with mosquitoes and other insects spreading disease. The fourth chapter on "Sanitary and insanitary makeshifts in the Eastern War Area" is more directly concerned with war, and justifies the claim that the book is essentially "for the sanitarian who has to combat tropical diseases in disadvantageous circumstances." The author refers to an ingenious arrangement whereby the user of a certain latrine could not get out of it without immersing his hands in a disinfectant solution which concealed the latch. In chapter five, preventive inoculation against typhoid and cholera is discussed. The sixth chapter presents the problem of hygiene in Egypt mainly from the administrator's point of view. The last chapter gives an account of the palm-tree from a sanitary standpoint. There would seem to be almost nothing for which the palm cannot be used. This saying of Linnaeus is quoted—"Man dwells naturally within the tropics and lives on the fruit of the palm tree; he exists in other parts of the world, and there makes shift to feed on corn and flesh." The book is illustrated by many excellent photographs, and is an interesting record of extensive observations.

The Sympathetic Nervous System in Disease. By W. Langdon Brown, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1920. (10s. 6d. net.)

This small volume is based on the author's Croonian Lectures delivered in 1918. The first chapter gives a clear description of the main plan of the autonomic nervous system, and is well illustrated by diagrams. In the next chapter the relationship of the sympathetic to disease of the endocrine glands is discussed. This is a most important chapter, and the one on glycosuria which follows it is of equal interest and importance. Renal glycosuria, diabetes innocens, Allen's conception of diabetes,
pituitary, thyroid and adrenal glycosuria, and the polyglandular hypothesis are all discussed in turn. Succeeding chapters deal with the relationship of the sympathetic to diseases of the circulatory and digestive systems, vagotonia, and finally with the responses of the sympathetic nervous system. The author presents his own views and those of others with moderation, and gives us a clear picture of where we stand to-day in our knowledge of the sympathetic in its relationship to many disorders. The book is well written and of great interest. It should be read by every physician.

NEW EDITIONS.

The New Physiology in Surgical and General Practice. By H. Rendle Short, M.D., B.S., B.Sc.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Limited. 1920. (Cloth, 9s. 6d. net.; Paper Covers, 7s. 6d. net.)

Each successive edition of this book—the present is the fourth—proves to be as fascinating as its predecessor. The author has the gift of writing in attractive and telling style, and he presents the new physiological problems of medicine and surgery in a manner which compels interest. Few of us have time to keep pace with new discoveries and developments in physiology, and Mr. Rendle Short has rendered the whole profession his debtor by thus bringing together the material which enables us to interpret with freshness some of the obscure processes met with in daily work. The war has provided new writing in some of the chapters. That on surgical shock shows that we are no nearer the discovery of its essential nature though new explanations are offered for its phenomena, and in their light the treatment is now practically standardised. The chapter on the heart is largely rewritten, as also is that on blood; physicians will find the newest doctrines and experiences in cardiology expressed tersely and graphically, amongst them Moss's four blood categories and a description of the simple expedient for determining compatibility or otherwise of two bloods. In regard to operations on the peripheral nerves the author advocates end-to-end suture at all costs, and regards nerve