NEW EDITIONS

A Manual of Midwifery. Seventh Edition. By T. Watts Eden, M.D., F.R.C.S., and Earley Holland, M.D., F.R.C.S. Pp. xii + 748, with 389 illustrations. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1931. Price 21s.

The appearance of the seventh edition of this well-known obstetrical manual indicates its continued popularity. Dr Holland has carried out a complete revision. Many sections on such important subjects as antenatal supervision, the management of labour with contracted pelvis, cardiac disease complicating pregnancy, foetal asphyxia and the physiology of the sex-cycle have been rewritten and give a clear exposition of the views generally accepted to-day by British obstetricians. The part dealing with the newborn child has been handed over to Dr Tallermann. In rewriting it he has embodied recent work on infant dietetics and gives much useful practical information. The illustrations have been revised. In many instances new figures replace those found in former editions while those retained have been redrawn. A "Guide to further reading" placed at the end of each "part" is to be commended.

By way of criticism it is noted that there is no mention of postnatal examination. Also several minor mistakes appear; e.g. on page 410, Fig. 247 (b) should read Fig. 246 (c), and in the latter figure the relation of the symphysis pubes to the sacrum is incorrect. As a whole the volume is excellent and can again be confidently recommended.

Practical Methods in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Diseases. Second Edition. By David Lees, D.S.O., M.A., M.B., D.P.H., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. Edin. Pp. xx + 634, with 95 illustrations. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1931. Price 15s.

A second edition of this important text-book so soon after its first publication is evidence that it has met with the appreciation it deserves. The book retains its morphological characters, its convenient size, and its moderate cost. The general arrangement remains the same and is good, and the material is well chosen, for it is a serious difficulty to keep such an enormous subject as venereal diseases within the confines of a single small volume. The illustrations have been enhanced in instructional value by the addition of several coloured plates of artistic merit which are well reproduced, by the elimination of one or two of the less instructive monochrome illustrations of the previous edition, and by the addition of new ones. No doubt in future editions further
New Editions

changes will be made in the monochrome illustrations whereby the essential part in each will be shown of larger size and consequently with greater distinctness. There is little to be made out of the paronychia and onychia, for instance, in Figs. 49 and 50, and the radiogram of tabetic arthritis (called “X-ray photograph, Charcot joint”) p. 106, might be replaced by a better one, and with advantage supplemented by an illustration of the affected bones themselves. These are no trifling defects when the excellence of this manual is on the increase.

An improved quality of paper and a clearer type have condued to an increase in the general acceptability of the book. A large part of the book, as is natural, is taken up with practical instructions, technique, and treatment—a little dogmatic perhaps this last, a little hard and fast maybe, but probably none the worse for that since the volume is for the instruction principally of students. It seems to the reviewer that in the appended “pharmacopoeia” the directions for use of the various prescriptions savour too much of hints to druggists, and indeed most of the formulæ would be better incorporated in the appropriate places in the text. The second edition proves this work as an accepted text-book in that greater Edinburgh School which is worldwide in its ramifications.

A Text-book of Physiology. By William D. Zoethout. Fourth Edition. Pp. 724, with 235 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1931. Price 18s.

This is the fourth edition of an American text-book intended especially for students in dental, pharmaceutical, and normal schools who require a via media between the voluminous larger works and brief introductions. This purpose is served admirably, although it certainly provides a full meal for students who have “from fifty to one hundred and fifty” hours to devote to the subject. One is struck at once by the breadth of the treatment, and the up-to-date detail. For example the hog stomach treatment of pernicious anaemia is mentioned, and the new autacoids such as cortin, tethelin and prolan. Modern conceptions of diet are well and simply explained, and recent work on vitamins is included (but vitamin A should surely be referred to as the “antixerophthalmic” and not the “antiophthalmic” vitamin, p. 488). The text is pleasantly readable and sufficiently full for the average student especially if he is prepared to supplement his reading by occasional reference to larger volumes, and it can be confidently recommended to older graduates who may wish to refresh their memory with the modern view-point in physiology without a mass of highly technical detail. The illustrations are good.
New Editions

*Organic Chemistry for Medical, Intermediate Science, and Pharmaceutical Students*. By A. KILLEN MACBETH. Second Edition. Pp. xiv + 296, with 12 illustrations. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1931. Price 6s. 6d.

This is a new edition of an admirable text-book on Organic Chemistry for medical students and intermediate science students. It is purely theoretical in its treatment and, while by no means exhaustive, it is an excellent book for those for whom it is written, and can thoroughly be recommended. We are pleased to see in a book of this size, a chapter on the chemistry of naturally occurring substances of biological interest, such as fats, sugar, proteins, etc. Too often does the student finish a short course in organic chemistry knowing an array of formulæ and reactions, but without any idea as to their usefulness and general application. Professor Macbeth, in this book, as well as presenting the fundamental facts of the science in a clear and lucid manner, introduces the student to their practical importance, with special reference to substances of medical and biochemical interest.

*Traumatotherapy: The Treatment of the Injured*. By JOHN J. MOORHEAD, B.Sc., M.D., F.A.C.S. (D.S.M.), Professor of Surgery and Director, Department Traumatic Surgery, New York. Pp. 574, with 625 illustrations. London: W. B. Saunders Company, Ltd. Price 32s. 6d.

This volume with its somewhat clumsy title is really a further edition of *Traumatic Surgery* which appeared in 1917. It is a valuable book for anyone who sees many accident cases. The qualifications of Professor Moorhead to write on the subject are well known, and it is interesting to learn that a Department of Traumatic Surgery and a Reconstruction Unit are in being in the New York Post-Graduate Hospital.

The chapters on fractures and dislocations deal with all types of these injuries adequately and yet briefly. In the operation of tendon transplantation for radial paralysis the illustration shows all three transplanted flexor tendons going round the radial side of the wrist. The disadvantages of such a course are too obvious for it to be other than an artist's error. A useful and interesting chapter is that on the medico-legal aspect of accidents, and there is a wealth of valuable information in it. The author indicates the importance of keeping accurate records and gives much helpful advice to the doctor as a witness. The illustrations must be specially mentioned. Many are line drawings which for truth and artistic merit deserve great praise.
New Editions

Roentgen Interpretation: A Manual for Students and Practitioners.
By GEORGE W. HOLMES and HOWARD E. RUGGLES. Fourth Edition. Pp. 339, with 237 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1931. Price 21s.

We welcome the fourth edition of this well-known manual for it now is brought up-to-date and brings to the notice of the student all the recent advances in radiological investigation.

As an introduction to the interpretation of radiograms this book has always had a well-deserved reputation; the authors wisely do not attempt to be discursive, they briefly describe the characteristic radiographic appearances of those conditions in which X-ray examination will be of assistance, for their purpose is to present a survey of the field of radiology in diagnosis. The reader who is especially interested in any particular investigation by X-rays is assisted by the provision of a bibliography, but we regret the omission of references to many classical monographs on radiological subjects which have been published in Great Britain and other European countries.

This book may be confidently recommended to medical students, to general practitioners, and equally well to those post-graduates who are entering on a course of special instruction in radiology.

Surgery: Its Principles and Practice. By ASTLEY PASTON COOPER ASHHURST, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania. Fourth Edition. Pp. 1189, with 1078 illustrations. London: Henry Kimpton. 1931. Price 45s.

This text-book, the fourth edition of which now appears, has been completely revised and certain sections rewritten. Amongst the latter may be mentioned those on giant cell tumours, osteochondritisides, scolioses, thromboangiitis obliterans, gastro-duodenal ulceration, and cholelithiasis, all of which are now up-to-date. The book is written in a delightful style so that the reading of it is pleasant as well as instructive. The author has written it with his own practice as a foundation and has carefully avoided repetition from other text-books.

There are three sections, general, systematic and regional, and every subject is fully described and one operative procedure indicated for each pathological condition. The chapter on fractures is very well done. In the section on abdominal surgery, the author states that the death rate from pneumococcal peritonitis is lower than from the septic type, and he finds that its general mortality is 70 to 80 per cent. Neither of the statements is true of the condition in this country. For Hirschsprung's disease the author still advocates the two-stage—exclusion and excision—method of treatment, leaving ramisectomy to "those who believe in the neuropathic origin."
New Editions

All the illustrations are original and taken from the author's own cases. They are well selected and reproduced. We find in this excellent text-book the considered opinions of a surgeon of wide knowledge and experience, and the book is admirably suited to the needs of the student.

The Physiology of Muscular Exercise. By the late F. A. Bainbridge. Third Edition, rewritten by A. V. Bock, M.D., Ph.D., and D. B. Dill, Ph.D. Pp. viii + 272, with 46 figures. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1931. Price 15s.

Since the second edition of this monograph was published in 1918 by Professor Bainbridge, a large amount of new work dealing with the physiology of muscular exercise has appeared. On this account the book has been enlarged, and for the greater part rewritten, by Dr Bock and Dr Dill. The general form of the old editions has been retained, and with one or two exceptions, the chapters are arranged under the same titles and divided into the same sections as before. All chapters, with the exception of the introduction, have, of course, been enlarged to varying extents and brought up to date, but it is interesting to note that the summaries and conclusions at the end of each chapter are practically the same as those written by Professor Bainbridge in 1918.

Chapter III, which deals with the physico-chemical changes in the blood and the control of respiration, has been entirely rewritten. It is in this branch of muscle physiology that greatest progress has been made during the last decade, and in this chapter is presented an excellent review of a difficult subject. In general, throughout the book, it is interesting to notice that there are added physico-chemical sections which are quite new, showing the direction in which modern research is tending.

The section on the passage of oxygen from the blood into the tissues has also been very much enlarged, and a more detailed examination of the various stages involved, again tending to the physico-chemical side, is presented. Much attention is also directed in this edition to the application of the principles of the physiology of muscular exercise to practical problems. The sections on exercise at high altitudes, on the after-effects of exercise and fatigue, with special reference to industrial fatigue, and on the beneficial effects of exercise, have been much enlarged in the process of bringing them up to date, and should prove of interest to the practitioner and industrialist as well as to the student of science.

Dr Bock and Dr Dill, in this monograph, have succeeded in preserving the high standard set by Professor Bainbridge in his two previous editions, and have produced an exceedingly interesting and instructive book.