

DIET LISTS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL, NEW YORK CITY.
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Pp. 129. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company,
1913.

THIS book in no sense is to be regarded as a work on dietetics. It is what it is represented to be, an intelligent compilation of the various diet lists that by experience at the Presbyterian Hospital have been found useful and practical.

Various types of diets are detailed in tabulated form. For example, regular house diet, convalescent diet, soft diet, milk and liquid diets are presented and briefly discussed. Various kinds of typhoid diets are next given. Salt-poor and purin-free diet lists are explained. Gastric diets are entered into with considerable care and diabetic diets are emphasized in great detail. In addition, diets for constipation, diarrhea, obesity, etc., are given. Useful features of the book are the additions of various gastric and intestinal test diets, a table of carbohydrate equivalents, and a list of useful receipts for special dishes suitable to diabetics. At the end of the book are given a table of the average chemical composition of American foods and Fisher's table of standard portions.

Frequent comments by the author furnishes valuable explanations and suggestions. For the practising physician who has little time and usually less inclination to work out accurate diet lists, this collection of diets will prove of great help and undoubted value.

G. M. P.

PHARMACOLOGY, CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL. A GROUNDWORK OF MEDICAL TREATMENT. By H. H. MEYER AND R. GOTTLIEB, Professors of Pharmacology at Vienna and Heidelberg; Translated by J. T. HALSEY, Professor of Pharmacology, Therapeutics, and Clinical Medicine at Tulane University. Pp. 604; 64 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1914.

CONSIDERING pharmacology as the "reaction of living organisms to various chemical agents," the authors have made an able presentation of scientific drug therapy, with frequent references to physiology and the seat and causes of the pathological conditions involved. As its name implies, their book is more than a text-book of therapeutics, in that it considers the pharmacological action of certain drugs not used in medicine, for example, curare, the first drug discussed. On the other hand, it does not attempt to include remedies other than drugs, such as massage, electricity, baths and so forth.

A fundamental division of all drugs is made into two classes: Organotropic (drugs influencing organs and their functions), and etiotropic (those acting on the causative agents of disease). The table of contents is divided into eighteen chapters, the first fourteen being devoted to the pharmacology of the several organs; the last four to the pharmacology of heat regulation, of inflammation, etiological pharmacological agents, and factors influencing pharmacological reactions. Drugs are not considered individually, but under each organ that they affect pharmacologically. A copious list of original sources is given at the end of each chapter. All doses are given in the metric system only.

Numerous additional facts and opinions are inserted by the translator. These so frequently disagree with the authors and sometimes supply such serious omissions, that an original work by the translator would be awaited with interest. For example the important effect of digitalis on the conductivity of the heart, so well demonstrated, by Cushny, Mackenzie, and Lewis, is briefly dealt with between brackets on page 266.

The subject matter appears on the whole to be accurately and adequately given. Many of the newer synthetic compounds are given, with cautious estimations as to their probable value. Among the cathartics, the phthaleins are emphasized, including the phenol-tetrachlorphthalein advocated by Abel and Rowntree. One is surprised, however, to find no mention of agar-agar or liquid petrolatum among the laxatives.

The book is well bound and well printed on good paper. A dangerous slip occurs on page 38, where 0.02 gm. of pantopon is said to correspond to 0.1 gm. of morphin instead of 0.01 gm. of morphin.

E. B. K.

THE CLINICS OF JOHN B. MURPHY, M.D., AT MERCY HOSPITAL, CHICAGO. Vol. III, No. 2, April, 1914. Pp. 212; 58 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914.

THE April number of Murphy's *Clinics* contains the first of "Murphy's Clinical Talks on Surgical and General Diagnosis," which have been advertised as a new feature for the current year. This talk has special reference to empyema, and to the Abderhalden test in tubal pregnancy. In the case of empyema presented the treatment consisted in drainage of the pleural cavity by a rubber tube inserted through an intercostal incision. There follow three cases of ectopia testis; a case of cholelithiasis treated by cholecystectomy; and a case of "acute pancreatic cyst." The latter was recognized eventually as a case of carcinoma, with pancreatogastric fistula; but its origin, whether gastric or pancreatic, does not appear to have been determined.