REVIEWS.

THE EXPECTATION OF LIFE OF THE CONSUMPTIVE AFTER SANATORIUM TREATMENT. By N. D. BARDSWELL, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.S., Medical Superintendent of the King Edward VII Sanatorium. Pp. 130. Edinburgh, Glasgow, and London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton, 1910.

THE book comprises statistical details and the life histories in brief of 241 patients. From the beginning of the author's sanatorium work he attempted, year by year, to keep in touch with the physical condition of the discharged patients, and in this he has met with a fair degree of success. As to the stage of disease, the classification employed is that adopted by the National Association, while the manner of tabulating after-results is along the lines adopted by the Germans. Some of the tables show the physical condition of the patients, the effects of different occupations, and their capacity for work at the end of four to seven years after discharge. The life histories are classified according to incipient, moderately advanced and far advanced stages. From one who has had considerable experience in the sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis, the book is of interest particularly in noting the "post-sanatorium life" of the patients and its effects. The author epitomizes the results of his efforts, which are obviously painstaking, with the statement that he is unable on account of insufficient evidence to estimate the average length of "post-sanatorium life." The book presents the subject, which has received but little attention in England and America, in a systematic and attractive manner.

W. T. C.

AN ANATOMICAL AND SURGICAL STUDY OF FRACTURES OF THE LOWER END OF THE HUMERUS. By ASTLEY P. C. ASHHURST, M.D., Prosector of Applied Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Pp. 158; 150 illustrations. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger, 1910.

IN this, the Samuel D. Gross Prize Essay of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery for 1910, the author has made a careful analysis of fifty-six cases of fracture of the lower end of the humerus which have come under his care in the various dispensary services in which he has been working. They are illustrated by a large number

of good skiagrams, plates, and diagrams. No claim is made for originality, either in diagnosis or treatment, beyond the careful and systematic examination of his cases, which is so characteristic of Dr. Ashhurst's work. His classification of these injuries is based on good anatomical and morphological lines. In the directions which are so clearly outlined for the treatment of these injuries, namely, the position of hyperflexion which was routinely employed because it is the one position in which the fragments are retained accurately in place without the aid of pads, splints, etc., the results obtained will be in marked contrast to the usual methods now pursued; so that the average practitioner may approach the treatment of injuries of this character with the expectation of obtaining a good functional result in a large percentage of the cases treated. The work evidences the greatest care and accuracy, and is invaluable to the practising surgeon and teacher. It is also an inspiration to young men just entering upon their careers, who have perhaps only a dispensary service, for it shows them what valuable material is to be found in every clinic, requiring only the careful noting, study, and classification so exemplified in these fifty-six cases of injury of the lower end of the humerus collected by the author. The general arrangement of the cuts and plates reflect great credit on the publishers, and we commend the work most heartily to all persons interested in this class of injuries.

R. H. H.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AND SANATORIUM TREATMENT. By C. MUTHU, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Physician to Mendip Hills Sanatorium, etc. Pp. 201; 10 illustrations. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1910. New York: William Wood & Co., 1910.

THE author has prepared the volume in three parts, which deal with the scientific, the sanatorial and the social aspects of tuberculosis. Verses of several well known poets have been used in a pertinent manner to introduce many of the chapters. Though the subject comprising the so-called scientific section is taken up in a systematic, clear, and comprehensive style, there is much for adverse criticism. The author unduly emphasizes the importance of heredity. He states that the symptoms of tuberculosis may spontaneously arise from the evolution of the common forms of bacilli (also pneumococci) in the tissue without direct infection with the tubercle bacillus—an extraordinary statement. This he designates as "spontaneous tuberculosis." The term "contagious" is not employed with its usual significance. In Part II every aspect of sanatorium treatment is considered, including inhalation and electrical treatment. However, one questions the potency of formaldehyde in curing tuberculosis through hardening of the mucous