

P. REMLINGER.—On a Rabbit Naturally Refractory to Rabies.

ACHARD and BINET.—The Reflexes due to Ocular Compression.

La compression oculaire n'agit pas que sur le cœur. Elle ralentit la respiration jusqu'à provoquer l'apnée chez le chien. Elle diminue le pouls capillaire, comme le montre la pléthysmographie. Chez les trépanés, on constate aussi qu'elle diminue le pouls cérébral. Le frisson est diminué par la compression de l'oeil. Il en est de même de certains tremblements. En particulier le tremblement basedowien peut être notablement diminué par ce moyen.

ACHARD and LEBLANC.—Renal Insufficiency in Cardiac Oliguria.

COSTA and TROISIER.—Immune Serum in Certain Spirochaetal Infections.

C. et T. ont constaté dans leurs recherches que si le sérum des malades atteints de spirochétose ictéro-hémorragique dévie le complètement en présence de l'antigène syphilitique et que si le sérum des syphilitiques contient des sensibilisatrices vis à vis de *Sp. ictéro-hémorragica*, on ne trouve pas, par contre, dans ce sérum, des substances immunisantes vis à vis du même spirochète.

G. LEO and E. VAUCHER.—Heliotherapy in Gunshot Wounds.

L'action bienfaisante du soleil peut s'expliquer par l'aspiration de la profondeur vers la superficie produite par la vasodilatation active des régions les plus superficielles, sans qu'il soit actuellement possible de préciser la profondeur limite de cette action vasodilatatrice. Simultanément la stérilisation de la plaie est obtenue très rapidement.

A. SEZARY.—Preparation of Hæmolytic Serums.

BELIN.—"Oxidotherapy" in the Treatment of Tetanus.

Résultats nets dans le tétanos chez le cheval, avec  $MnO_4K$ , voie intraveineuse; pourrait être employé chez l'homme en injection intramusculaire, intervenir tôt.

E. ZUNZ and P. GOVAERTS.—Antitryptic Index of the Blood Serum in the Wounded.

L'élévation du pouvoir antitryptique peut faire défaut dans les septicémies et dans les états de collapsus circulatoire déterminés, dans les premières heures après une blessure, par l'hémorragie ou par l'infection.

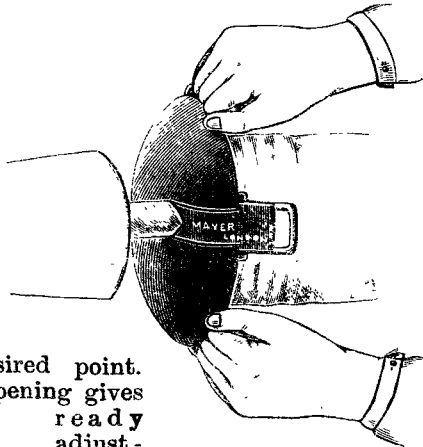
E. ZUNZ.—Alkaline Reserve of the Blood Serum.

La teneur du sérum en réserve alcaline, évaluée d'après la méthode de Marriott, reste normale chez les blessés, pourvu qu'il n'y ait ni fièvre ni infection notables. Le streptocoque et le *B. perfringens* interviennent presque toujours dans les infections qui entraînent l'acidose. La teneur du sérum en réserve alcaline fournit d'utiles indications pour le pronostic.

## New Inventions.

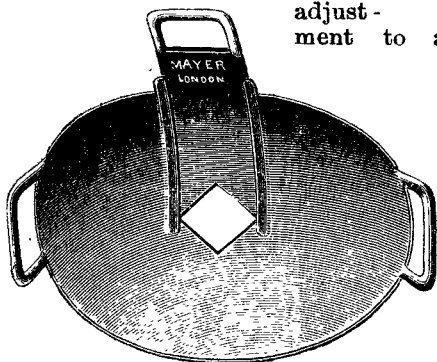
### AN AMPUTATION-FLAP RETRACTOR.

THE construction of this instrument, which I have designed, is shown in the illustrations. Its main objects are to give the maximum retraction of skin and muscle flaps in amputating and the easiest access to the bone to be divided. It is easily applied by one assistant, and when the operator is dividing the bone the assistant's hands are well out of the way—the bone can be divided without obstruction at the desired point. The diamond-shaped opening gives



ready adjustment to any size of bone, and the whole is readily sterilisable in the Army pattern steriliser.

This form of retractor has been used in several hospitals in France for 18 months and has given satisfaction in every way.



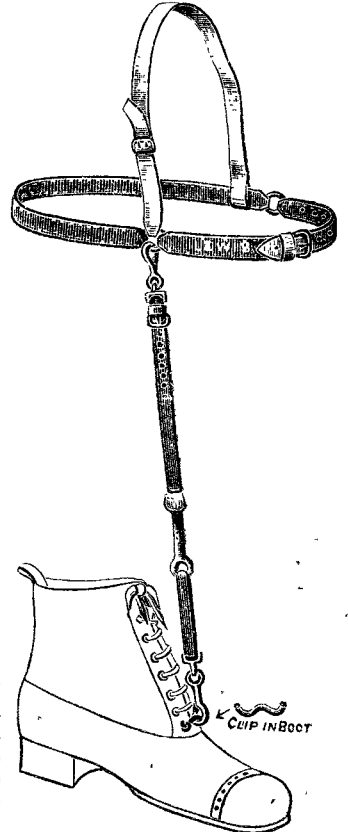
Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer, of Great Portland-street, London, W., are the makers. R. BUTE MACFIE, Captain, R.A.M.C. (T.C.)

### A NEW APPARATUS FOR THE TREATMENT OF FOOT-DROP.

THE apparatus figured herewith I have designed and am using for the correction of the foot-drop resulting from injuries of the sciatic or external popliteal nerves, or from any other cause of paralysis of dorsiflexion of the foot. The apparatus is an adaptation of one I have used for years in the correction of foot-drop in cases of poliomyelitis in children, whose strength cannot bear the added weight of steel supports.

In principle it consists of a piece of stout elastic, 4½ inches in length and about 5/8 inch in thickness, circular in cross section, though for children a thinner elastic should be used. What is actually used is known as a door "accumulator" spring. This is securely fastened above and below to a narrow leather strap, the lower one about 4 inches in length and ending in a spring hook.

This spring hook is attached to a bow-shaped hook which is inserted into the two bottom lace holes of the boot, or if preferred it may be attached to a ring on a cross leather strap firmly sewn across the boot-upper into the welt of the sole. The strap fixed to the top end of the piece of elastic is carried up the thigh inside the trouser, about 25 inches in length, and is attached to a buckle on a short length of strap, which by a spring hook depends from a metal ring inserted in a leather belt worn above the hips and over the shirt. This buckle in the upper strap is necessary in order to vary the tension in the elastic pull on the foot. All this apparatus is worn beneath the trouser, so that all that is visible issuing below the bottom of the belt is the spring hook attachment to the upper of the boot. To the back of the belt is attached a cross brace of stout webbing 4 feet in length, which is passed over the opposite shoulder, and threaded through the ring in the belt and fastened to a buckle on the brace, somewhat as in the ordinary Sam Browne belt. This cross brace should be not less than 1½ inches in width, and is made of stout inelastic webbing to buckle in front, so that the tension can be varied at will. The body belt and cross brace to which the elastic foot extension is attached are worn over the shirt and underneath the tunic or coat and waistcoat. Without a cross brace the pull of the elastic extension drags the belt too much downwards, the pull then being taken only by the hips, instead of by the hips and opposite shoulder combined, which is far better.



This apparatus has now stood the test of over two years of use in cases of sciatic nerve injuries, and patients wearing it are able to walk with very little or no limp. It can easily be fitted to any boot, and its weight and inconvenience of wearing are trifling. It is comparatively inexpensive, and with the lower strap of the same colour as the boot it is hardly visible. Another advantage of the apparatus is that it is equally well adapted for either foot, no alteration being necessary, and for double drop-foot, such as in cauda equina injuries, all that is necessary is to fix two elastic springs by their straps to the belt, one on each side, and two cross braces instead of one.

The apparatus is made by Mr. Henry Lewis, of Westmoreland-street, Marylebone, W., who has registered the design.

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AT a meeting of the managers of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, held on Feb. 25th, it was reported that Miss Helen Martin Murray, formerly of Glen Arthur Lodge, Spylaw-road, latterly residing at Meadowbank House, Melrose, had bequeathed the residue of her estate, amounting to £60,000, for the provision of a convalescent home for discharged sailors and soldiers.

## Reviews and Notices of Books.

*The Control of the Drink Trade: A Contribution to National Efficiency. 1915-1917.* By HENRY CARTER. With a Preface by Lord D'ABERNON. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1918. Pp. 323. Price 7s. 6d. net.

THIS book is a history of the legislative and administrative action taken in Great Britain with a view to regulating the liquor traffic in the abnormal circumstances created by the war. It deals with the period between the autumn of 1914 and the spring of 1917—i.e., from the outbreak of hostilities down to the time when, in order to conserve food-supplies, drastic restrictions on the output of liquor were imposed by the Food Controller. These latter restrictions, being purely emergency measures to meet the menace of the submarine campaign, form no part of the general policy of liquor control, and Mr. Carter has done wisely in bringing his survey of the subject to a conclusion at a date before their disturbing influence begins to operate. Chiefly, the book is concerned with the work of the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic), which came into existence in the spring of 1915. The author has been a member of this Board for the last two years, so that he writes out of an extensive and intimate knowledge of the subject; and his book, accordingly, though he expressly disclaims for it the character of an official pronouncement, has an authoritative quality which would not attach to the work of an outside critic.

In the detailed account which he gives of the restrictive and constructive measures of the Control Board, Mr. Carter brings out very clearly the characteristics that distinguish these measures from previous experiments in drink control. As Lord D'Abernon points out in the preface which he has written for the book, they constitute the first attempt to deal with the drink trade solely on lines of national efficiency. And they represent also the first real effort to regulate the drinking habits of the people in accordance with the teachings of hygiene, as, for instance, by allotting the hours for the sale of liquor so as to minimise the risk of a continued action of alcohol on the body, by bringing the consumption of alcoholic beverages into relation with ordinary meal-times, by enforcing the dilution of spirits, and so on. Passing to the constructive work of the Board, Mr. Carter shows that the same principles have guided the experiments in the direct State management of public-houses which have been tried at Carlisle and in other smaller areas. A chapter of special interest deals with the industrial canteen movement, the initiation of which by the Control Board marks the first step in a reform of vital importance to the future of industrial life in this country. It is in consonance with the new tendencies thus manifest in its aims and methods that the Board should also adopt a more rigorous standard of evidence in estimating the effect of its activities on national sobriety. And in this connexion medical readers will note with interest and approval the large place given to the statistics of alcoholic mortality and disease in the chapters in which Mr. Carter discusses the results of State control. The appeal to evidence of this sort is a new departure, and will commend itself to everyone who appreciates the fallacies and limitations of the statistics of public drunkenness, on which it has hitherto been the practice to rely almost exclusively as a test of the fluctuations of alcoholism. That there are regrettable lacunæ in these medical statistics—notably as regards the statistics of delirium tremens, which appear to have been regularly recorded only in a very few localities—indicates how little attention has been paid in the past to any but the police and licensing law aspects of the liquor problem.

We leave the book with the feeling that the Control Board, which has been fortunate in many things, has been fortunate also in its historian. Mr. Carter has done his work in easy, lucid style, achieving with success the difficult task of giving a picture in which accuracy of detail is preserved without any sacrifice of the broad general effects. The book is adequately illustrated with charts and diagrams, and is furnished with appendices of official documents and with a full and well-arranged index—points of importance in a work which should be in much demand for purposes of reference.

*Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs and the Kidneys.* By ROBERT H. GREENE, M.D., Professor of Genito-urinary Surgery at the Fordham University, New York; and HARLOW BROOKS, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College. Fourth edition, thoroughly revised. London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company. 1917. Pp. 666. Price 24s. net.

THE fact that Professor Greene's comprehensive book has now reached its fourth edition is sufficient evidence of its popularity. The book is well got up and profusely illustrated; the pictures demonstrating the anatomy of the genito-urinary tract and also those of pathological specimens are exceedingly well done, the selection of typical examples of the latter being excellent. The diagrammatic drawings of the details of operations as carried out by the authors are also very good, and so numerous that it is quite easy to follow the various stages of each operation. If there is any complaint to be made in connexion with the illustrations it relates to the cystoscopic pictures of the bladder and the endoscopic views of the urethra. Uncoloured pictures of the interior of the bladder and the urethra cannot give an adequate idea of the conditions seen, and to be of practical value a large number of coloured illustrations are necessary to demonstrate the many points needed to help the practitioner in diagnosis. But even a few coloured typical pictures would be of more value than those given.

In regard to methods of diagnosis and treatment the authors have set out their own, giving the theoretical considerations for adopting them in preference to others without entering into long discussions on controversial points. In this way the book has not become unduly large. Even so, perhaps too much attention has been devoted to the details of surgical operations. These might have been limited with advantage and more space allotted to the general principles of operative procedure and to differential diagnosis. Again, it is surprising that so little mention is made of the irrigating cystoscope and the aero-urethro-scope, which have practically replaced all other such instruments in this country. On the whole, however, the reader is the gainer from the personal bias of the book, which embodies the actual experiences of experts.

*Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis.* Volume IX. Fourth edition, entirely rewritten. Edited by W. A. DAVIS, B.Sc., A.C.G.I. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1917. Pp. 836. Price 30s.

As explained in the preface this is a supplementary volume to the series which brings the text, especially that of the earlier volumes, up to date. It includes also a complete general index to the subject matter of the whole work. A glance at the list of authors mentioned in the index of them gives a good idea of the authoritative character of the analytical propaganda. The subjects of medical interest in this supplement include the alkaloids, animal bases and acids, milk products, and meat and meat products, all of which have received special attention of late in regard to analysis and valuation. This volume adds considerably to the value of the whole issue, and chemists will, in general, appreciate the series as a source of reference in analytical (organic) procedure.

*A Manual of Physics.* By HUGH C. H. CANDY, B.A., B.Sc. Second edition, enlarged. London: Cassell and Co. Pp. 451. Price 7s. 6d. net.

THE new edition of this manual, which is intended by the author to meet the needs of medical students, confirms the favourable opinion which we formed on its first appearance. Mr. Candy makes frequent reference to the application of physics to medicine, and the student need not feel that he is working in a water-tight compartment with no connexion with his later subjects of study. The sections on general physics and sound may possibly not be quite sufficient for the higher grade first medical examinations, but it is no small merit for the book to bear the stamp of a writer who loves his subject for its own sake and who presents it in an accurate and attractive form.