REVIEWS.

MODERN MEDICINE. By JULIUS L. SALINGER, M.D., Demonstrator of Clinical Medicine, Jefferson Medical College; Chief of the Medical Clinic, Jefferson Medical College Hospital; Attending Physician to the Philadelphia Hospital; and FREDERICK J. KATZ, M.D., Assistant Demonstrator of Clinical Medicine, Jefferson Medical College; Hematologist to the Jefferson Medical College Hospital; Pathologist to the Lying-in Charity Hospital, Philadelphia; Assistant Pathologist to Philadelphia Hospital. Pp. 801. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co.

THE aim of the authors has been to bring within the compass of a single volume not only clinical medicine but what they are pleased to term "a number of specialties, such as physical diagnosis, bacteriology, the examination of the gastric contents, the urine, the blood, the feces, etc.," for which the student is usually obliged to procure separate books. For this reason the first one hundred and seventy pages are occupied with an introduction proper, symptomatology and semeiology, which includes much that should be found in the next division—physical diagnosis—clinical bacteriology, and, finally, laboratory methods. Of this little need be said; it is fairly complete and should be a good guide for the student, although we are of the opinion that he will still prefer his little book for his pocket in the clinic or for his desk in the laboratory. Here as elsewhere some peculiarities of expression are found which obscure the interpretation, "atmospheric pressure," as in a pneumatic cabinet, decreases the pulse-rate. Rarefied air, as in mountain regions, on the contrary, increases the pulse-rate (p. 38). Again, we find such an important omission as a statement in reference to the changes in sphygmographic tracing which arise from the varying weights upon the artery when the Dudgeon instrument is employed (p. 43). The remainder of the volume is devoted to the consideration of the subjects grouped together to form internal medicine, and is divided as follows: Infectious diseases, diseases of the circulation, of the respiratory system, of the digestive tract, and of the kidneys, constitutional diseases, diseases of the blood and ductless glands, of the nervous system, and of the muscles, intoxications and sunstroke, and, finally, diseases due to animal parasites. Of the book this much can be said: it is systematically developed and evenly written, and while there are no chapters of startling brilliancy there are none of painful inadequacy; the latter is much the less rare in the modern text-book. The claim of the authors that the main facts are considered from a modern and generally accepted stand-point is, to a remarkable degree, true. Yet instances can be pointed out where the opposite holds. In the section on septicæmia (page 283 *et seq.*) no mention is made of soluble silver, which is certainly modern and quite generally accepted. In so-called croupous

pneumonia (p. 237) the mechanical and minor problems receive attention, while treatment based on its essential character—infection—is not presented. In various parts of the work the brilliant results obtained in internal antiseptics do not receive by any means adequate recognition. Often after an inadequate presentation of the treatment of a particular disease there comes out an involuntary admission of its inefficacy. For instance, in typhoid fever, after a brief exposition of the method of Currie-Jürgensen, commonly known as Brand (p. 185), comes the curious admission: "Management of convalescence—the process is long and tedious." Nothing is said about the methods which treat both patient and disease and have produced such remarkable reductions in mortality. Of minor matters many might be criticised. Too frequent resort to opium or morphine in respiratory diseases when codeine is preferable and much more efficient; peculiar descriptions, as that of mountain fever (p. 200); singular classification, as that of infective endocarditis (p. 327) into septic or pyemic, typhoid, cerebral, cardiac or malarial type; indiscriminate mingling of suffixes, morphia and morphin, atropia and atropin, when neither is correct if the Pharmacopœia is the standard, for that gives morphine and atropine.

The illustrations and tables are excellent, the type and binding satisfactory, and in the main the text has been well done, even if the size of the book necessitates condensation and may suggest the adjective "sketchy." With minor defects corrected, with the present as a basis, an excellent text-book can be made. The greatest fault which we find lies in the inadequate treatment. In this respect the authors are in good company, for it is a defect of nearly every text-book which we have read in recent years. But with the wide-spread revival of interest in therapeutics, with the enormous increase of knowledge, both of old remedies and recent additions to our resources, the authors had the opportunity to make this the most useful of all works of its class. We trust that the next edition will show a careful sifting of therapeutic material rich in facts which are the most important for the alleviation of human suffering.

R. W. W.

THE PRACTICAL MEDICINE SERIES OF YEAR-BOOKS. Under the general editorial charge of GUSTAVUS P. HEAD, M.D. Vol. III., The Eye, Nose, and Throat. Edited by CASEY A. WOOD, C.M., M.D., ALBERT H. ANDREWS, M.D., and T. MELVILLE HARDIE, A.M., M.D. Chicago: The Year-book Publishers, 1901.

THE publishers of this series of year-books are to be heartily congratulated on the great practical value of the plan which they have pursued.

The present little volume presents excellent abstracts of the most important current literature on those branches with which it deals. The various editors have performed their work in a most satisfactory manner, the abstracts, while short, containing the gist of those articles which they represent.

The illustrations which accompany the text are hardly worthy of mention, and the book is inartistic in its whole get-up, both paper and