

REVIEWS

BLOOD-PRESSURE: ITS CLINICAL APPLICATIONS. By GEORGE W. NORRIS, A.B., M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania; Assistant Visiting Physician, University Hospital. Second edition. Pp. 424; 133 illustrations. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger, 1916.

THE rapid exhaustion of the edition of a book does not necessarily show the inherent value of the book, as other factors, aside from the real worth of the work, may at times induce a ready sale. But this generalization does not apply to Dr. Norris's work which is now appearing in the second edition in a comparatively short time after the publication of the first. In this case it can be fairly stated that the first volume on blood-pressure was so complete and thorough, and so painstakingly prepared, that its wide-spread popularity was well merited. In this new edition Dr. Norris has incorporated much fresh material in the ever-changing and advancing study of vascular pressure. He has incorporated new researches, both clinical and laboratory, and in every way has kept abreast of his subject. There is one criticism, however, of the book which may be expressed. Dr. Norris is an authority on his subject, therefore it would enhance the value of his work were he to express more didactically his own opinions of the various methods and procedures which he discusses. In this way the less expert reader would have the definite opinion of one qualified to express, for example, which method is best in estimating the functional efficiency of the circulation. As it is now the book describes so many different methods that it is difficult to pick out the best one without guidance.

J. H. M., JR.

RULES FOR RECOVERY FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. A LAYMAN'S HAND-BOOK OF TREATMENT. By LAWRASON BROWN, M.D., of Saranac Lake, New York. Second edition. Pp. 184. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger, 1916.

ANOTHER edition of Dr. Brown's excellent little book of *Rules* is heartily welcome. Though seemingly a simple task, it required an expert to present the subject so briefly, so entertainingly, and so

accurately. While such a book is in no sense intended as a substitute for the physician's instructions, it will in many instances be a valuable supplement to them. Besides directly applicable instruction, the book also contains much general information of a useful character about tuberculosis. It is to be hoped, however, that not only patients and other lay persons will profit by this volume, but that its valuable instructions will also be shared by physicians, medical students, and nurses.

C. M. M.

DISEASES OF THE EYE: A HANDBOOK OF OPHTHALMIC PRACTICE FOR STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS. BY GEORGE E. DE SCHWEINITZ, M.D., LL.D. (Univ. of Pa.), Professor of Ophthalmology in the University of Pennsylvania; Ophthalmic Surgeon to the University Hospital; Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon to Philadelphia Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia General Hospital, and Orthopedic Hospital and Infirmary for Nervous Diseases. Eighth edition. Pp. 754; 386 illustration and 7 colored plates. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1916.

When a book passes through eight editions and a number of reprints in less than twenty-five years, on an average about one revision or reprint every second year, there is the best *prima facie* evidence that the work is one of real merit; and this is completely borne out by a perusal of the contents, however critical the reader may be. There is no exaggeration at all in declaring Dr. de Schweinitz's text-book to be the best of its kind in the English language, and unsurpassed in any other language. This is no slight praise, considering the high character of a number of books dealing with the same subject by other distinguished writers.

The subject-matter has been brought thoroughly up to date, although no epoch-making discoveries or improvements are to be chronicled in this domain since the last edition. We note that Lieutenant Colonel Elliot has written the description of the operation for glaucoma known by his name. The author observes of this method that he "is unconvinced that it is a better procedure than a technically correct iridectomy," while he regards it as a better operation in chronic non-congestive glaucoma than iridectomy and preferable to a second iridectomy or sclerotomy if a previous iridectomy has failed. He likewise is not very favorably impressed by Heine's operation of cyclodialysis as a substitute for iridectomy in ordinary acute or chronic glaucoma.

The typography, illustrations, paper, and general make-up of the volume are excellent and worthily represent the publishers' important contribution to a work of such merit. A full index completes the volume.

T. B. S.

A MECHANISTIC VIEW OF WAR AND PEACE. By GEORGE W. CRILE, M.D., Professor of Surgery, Western Reserve University. Pp. 104; 32 illustrations. New York: The Macmillan Company.

THIS small book will appeal to those who are familiar with Dr. Crile's other works and are in accord with his well-known theories. Although the book is in a sense descriptive of the present European war, yet it should not be read from this point of view but only as an interpretation of the phenomena of war upon the basis of the mechanistic theory. It is written from the view-point of this theory, in the terms peculiar to the theory, and upon one's belief in this theory, the value of the book will depend.

The quotation may help to make this clear. It is from the chapter entitled A Mechanistic View of German Kultur, p. 75: "A people may be brutalized into formal submission; but brutal treatment results in creating in the brains of the children the strongest action patterns of opposition and of hatred. The conquering enemy can never supplant the influence of the hating mother who plants action patterns in the brains of her children when the shades are drawn." O. H. P. P.

MEDICAL CLINICS OF CHICAGO. Vol. 1, Nos. 5 and 6. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1916.

THE fifth number of the *Medical Clinics* contains some very interesting and instructive case studies. Dr. Case contributes an article on roentgenological aspect of intestinal stasis. Dr. Williamson presents five different cases, of which the last one, showing the difficulty of distinguishing between carcinoma of the stomach and pernicious anemia, is most ably discussed. Dr. Preble has two cases which are interesting but marred by frequent questions and answers. Dr. Hamill discusses three neurological disorders. In Dr. Tice's clinics, in addition to the two cases that he shows, there is also a report on the autopsy of the case which was discussed in the January *Clinics*. Probably the most valuable and thorough of the different clinics is that of Dr. Abt, who has a splendid discussion on congenital syphilis, which is illustrated by photographs and a colored plate. This number of the *Clinics* is concluded by the three cases of Dr. Mix.

The sixth number of the *Medical Clinics* contains, in addition to the authors in the previous number, also clinics of Dr. Hamburger, Dr. Tivnen, Dr. Friedman, and Dr. Zeisler. This number is uniformly good and contains some very interesting and valuable material. The clinics are all good, but it would be perfectly fair again to say that that of Dr. Abt is extremely carefully prepared

and well illustrated. Dr. Hamburger also contributes a clinic which elaborates most carefully the present-day treatment of diabetes as advocated by Dr. Allen.

This last number of the *Medical Clinics of Chicago* shows a very distinct improvement over the earlier ones. There are still some things to which one takes exception, but, on the whole, they are a most novel and interesting method of learning at first hand the ideas and methods of men competent to discuss and to teach internal medicine.

J. H. M., JR.

THE STARVATION TREATMENT OF DIABETES. By LEWIS WEBB HILL, M.D., Children's Hospital, Boston, and RENA S. ECKMAN, Dietitian, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. With an introduction by RICHARD C. CABOT, M.D. Second edition. Pp. 131. Boston: W. M. Leonard, 1916.

THIS small book on the details of the Allen treatment may be reviewed both accurately and comprehensively by quoting the last paragraph of the introduction written by Dr. Richard Cabot. "It is, of course, too early to say how far-reaching and how permanent the effects of such a diet will be in the severe and in the milder cases of diabetes. All we can say is that thus far it appears to work admirably well. To all who wish to give their patients the benefit of this treatment I can heartily recommend this book."

J. H. M., JR.

CHARACTER AND TEMPERAMENT. By JOSEPH JASTROW, M.D. Pp. 596. New York and London: Appleton & Co.

THIS volume is the first of a series on general psychological subjects, the others being entitled, "The Qualities of Men," "The Subconscious," and "Fact and Fable in Psychology." One or two have been previously reviewed in this JOURNAL. In all of these volumes, and especially in this, the effort is made to clearly present the subject of the psychological elements of the mind. The reviewer is not at all certain whether these volumes are meant for the student of psychology or if it is an effort to popularize the subject. It is difficult to adequately review a book of this kind because the subject is so large and the presentation so difficult. The reviewer who has taught medical students for many years would hardly recommend this book to students because the method of presentation is not attractive. The paragraphs are large, many of them an entire page, and some two, and while one may conceive that a student of psychology would be sufficiently interested to read paragraphs of this sort, yet is this the wisest way to present any subject?

T. H. W.

A TEXT-BOOK OF HISTOLOGY. By RUDOLF KRAUSE, Professor of Anatomy at the University of Berlin. Pp. 274; 36 illustrations. New York: Rebman Company.

This appears to be intended as a companion book to Professor Krause's *A Course in Normal Histology*, published in 1913 and reviewed in AM. JOURN. MED. SC., May, 1914. This latter work was principally of the nature of an atlas of colored plates, with a descriptive account of each illustrated tissue or organ. The present work is a comprehensive text-book, illustrated for the most part with schematic explanatory figures. It is stated on the title-page that the references to illustrations given in the text relate to the colored illustrations in the previous larger work. Thus for a complete survey of the field of normal histology it would be necessary to have both books, as they are, in many ways, complementary to one another. One also learns from the title-page that this text was translated from an original manuscript and is now printed the first time. Considering this method of preparation the book is well done and only small errors of fact have been detected. But in the literal translation of some of the original names the writer has not always brought his terms into line with current nomenclature. This method of preparation has also its merits, for, no doubt, one gets a more vivid and interesting account of the subject when taken directly from the lecturer. Many more details of physiological chemistry are contained than usually given in current histologies, and, in many ways, the book represents an interesting exposition of the subject.

W. H. F. A.

THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH. By H. W. HILL, Professor of Public Health, Western University. Pp. 205. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

IN the several chapters of this book the author clearly brings out his contention that the old public health was concerned with the environment; the new is concerned with the individual. The vastness of the problem of prevention of disease is thus made comparatively simple. For example, if instead of improving the environment of the 100,000,000 people in the United States we give proper supervision to the 200,000 people infected with tuberculosis the problem is but one five-hundredth the magnitude.

Very strong emphasis is made of the cure of infective discharges. Indeed this seems probably the most important factor in the new public health. Thus we see that tuberculosis, pneumonia, and the other infectious diseases will develop under almost any circumstances if the dose of infection be large enough, virulent enough, or

sufficiently repeated. These same diseases will not develop under any circumstances without such infection.

It is the belief of the author that mothers, because of intimate contact, propagate and keep alive and spread the infectious diseases of children more than any other one body of people. The basic principles of public health, therefore, should be taught in public schools in order to reach girls, the prospective mothers of the race.

The common fallacies and superstitions of a former generation, many of which are still believed in spite of their absurdity, are discussed in an interesting manner. The as yet unsolved problem of venereal prophylaxis is but lightly touched in this book.

The chapters are logically arranged, and each contains at the end a well-written summary.

A. G. M.

AN INDEX OF TREATMENT. BY VARIOUS WRITERS. Edited by ROBERT HUTCHISON, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the London Hospital, and Physician (with Charge of Out-Patients) to the Hospital for Sick Children, and JAMES SHERREN, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital and Senior Surgeon to the Poplar Hospital for Accidents. Revised to conform with American usage by WARREN COLEMAN, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine and Practical Pharmacology, Cornell University Medical College. Seventh edition. Pp., 1152; 82 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co.

THE purpose of this work is to furnish the general practitioner with a complete and trustworthy guide to modern methods of treatment, in a convenient form for reference.

The list of contributors consists of eighty-nine British authors, many of whom are of such prominence as to assure the success of any work undertaken by them; and this, coupled with the fact that it has run through seven editions, gives it a warm recommendation.

The authors have avoided any unnecessary presentation of a confusing number of procedures and have adhered throughout to the most effective and direct methods. There are no chapters, the book starting with the treatment of diseases in alphabetical order, this order being maintained throughout. The surgical articles are devoted more to non-operative treatment and to minor or emergency operations of the type the general practitioner might be called upon to perform, while the technique of the more elaborate operations is omitted as is the management of labor, the latter being conceded to be without the scope of this work.

The description of treatment is very similar to that found in text-books of medicine, surgery, and the various specialties, and includes procedures for practically every diseased condition regard-

less of the field into which it falls. The descriptions of necessity fall short of the completeness of a system on treatment, in places being rather sketchy, while in others, as the blood diseases and rheumatoid arthritis, they leave nothing to be desired. The book is of unquestionable value to the general practitioner, who may encounter any of the conditions mentioned and who may not be fortunate enough to possess the various systems or the text-books of the specialties, which he as a practitioner may encounter.

The book is rather cumbersome in size, and the print is decidedly too small. Two volumes and larger print would be an advantage.

A. H. H.

TEXT-BOOK OF NERVOUS DISEASES. By CHARLES L. DANA, M.D.
Eighth edition. Pp. 632; 262 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co.

THIS is the eighth edition of this well-known work, the first being published twenty-three years ago. Comparing this with the previous edition there is the greatest difference, and it seems almost as if one is reading an entirely new work. There is little consideration given to anatomy, the author taking the position that in modern neurology any extensive discussion of anatomy is out of place, as special books are numerous on this subject. There is the usual treatment of symptoms, not much of a discussion on pathology and then the usual consideration of various clinical phases of nervous diseases beginning with peripheral nerves, then the cranial nerves, spinal-cord diseases, brain diseases, the various forms of functional disease, and finally the general diseases. There is a very interesting closing chapter on craniocerebral topography and an appendix in which is given the functional innervation of the muscles. The book is freely and well illustrated, although there is not as free a use of charts as there might be. It is needless to discuss the treatment of the subject matter, for any work by Dr. Dana is bound to be first class. No work ever reaches an eighth edition unless it is well worth while.

T. H. W.

HOSPITALS AND THE LAW. By EDWIN VALENTINE MITCHELL, LL.B., of the Faculty of the College of Law, University of South Dakota. Pp. 178. New York: Rebman Company, 1915.

PROFESSIONAL literature grows so rapidly that it is becoming more and more impossible for one to keep in touch with even that of his own vocation; much less is it possible to know the literature of the other professions. Yet the activities of the various call-

ings are so interrelated that every well-informed member of each must know something about the others. This is especially true as between the law and medicine. For most of us it can be accomplished only through summaries of the important and well-established facts bearing along the particular lines in which one is interested. Such a summary is this presentation of Dr. Mitchell's. He has brought together the essential legal practices in relation to hospitals and has so served to make possible for the physician and others an understanding of those practices without the necessity of a prolonged search in legal literature.

The book is well written, concise, sufficiently indexed, and gives references to rulings and decisions upon which its statements are based. It will be found most helpful to those interested in hospital management.

T. G. M.

A GUIDE TO GYNECOLOGY IN GENERAL PRACTICE. By COMYNS BERKELEY, M.A., M.D., M.C. (Cantab.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), Obstetric and Gynecological Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital and Surgeon-in-Charge of its Military Hospital at Clacton-on-Sea; Surgeon to the Chelsea Hospital for Women; Senior Obstetric Surgeon to the City of London Lying-in Hospital, etc., and VICTOR BONNEY, M.S., M.D., B.Sc. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), Assistant Obstetric and Gynecological Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital and Surgeon-in-Charge of its Military Hospital at Clacton-on-sea; Surgeon to the Chelsea Hospital for Women and the Hounslow Hospital, etc. London: Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press; Hodder & Stoughton, Warwick Square, E. C.

THIS volume is constructed along lines entirely different from those which we are accustomed to expect in text-books, since the sole aim of the authors has been to demonstrate the *significance* of symptoms and the *interpretation* of physical signs. To this end they have divided the book into five sections. In the first section the various methods of examination of patients and the more common instruments used in such examinations are briefly but clearly considered. The second section is devoted to the consideration of symptoms as such, each symptom being carefully considered in its relation to the various conditions in which it might be found, while disease entities are not considered *per se*. Thus, for example, a fibromyoma of the uterus is not described as a separate clinical condition, but is classified under various headings such as uterine hemorrhage, menstrual pain, sterility, etc. The third section of the book deals with physical signs in a similar manner, and it is this "cross-index" feature of the book that renders it of especial value to the practitioner and student. The treatment of the various conditions described form

the fourth section of the book, but operative technic has been deliberately omitted. In this section many practical suggestions are offered, including the publication of prescriptions which the authors have found of service in their wide experience. A bit of conservatism is inferred concerning the value of radium in the treatment of carcinoma of the cervix, and it is surprising to note that early operation is recommended in gonorrheal salpingitis and that phylacogens are suggested in the treatment of chronic gonorrhea. The final section of the book is devoted to the medicolegal aspects of gynecology according to the laws of England, embracing such topics as nullity of marriage, rape, criminal abortion, foreign bodies left in the uterus, vagina, or abdomen, etc.

As a whole, the book is one which should be in the hands of every practitioner who attends gynecological cases, and the numerous semidiagrammatic illustrations and conciseness of the text should render the work especially appealing to the student. F. E. K.

ABDOMINAL INJURIES. By PROF. RUTHENFORD MORISON and LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. G. RICHARDSON, R.A.M.C. (T.). Pp. 116; 16 illustrations. London: Oxford Medical Press.

THE book is written by Rutherford Morison. Colonel Richardson's name appears by reason of the diagrams which are of little value. The author states that there is no essential difference between the surgical principles which should guide civil and military surgeons. The bulk of the volume is made up of a description of operative technic and postoperative complications and their treatment which differs essentially from the ordinary text-books. The subject of diagnosis is well presented. A few pages are devoted to general considerations of penetrating perforating and gunshot wounds. G. M. L.

WOUNDS IN WAR. THEIR TREATMENT AND RESULTS. By LIEUTENANT-COLONEL D'ARCY POWER, R.A.M.C. Pp. 104. London: Oxford Medical Press.

THE American surgeon who seeks the knowledge already gained by the combined experience of many military surgeons will be disappointed in this book. It is truly a "primer." The general principles of suppurating wounds in their various aspects are discussed with special reference to antiseptic methods, but the treatment of specific infections such as tetanus and gaseous gangrene is superficial and incomplete. G. M. L.