

BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKBESPREKINGS

FUNDAMENTELE VIROLOGIE

Nutritional Factors in Virus Formation. By K. Yamafuji. Pp. xiii + 128. Illustrated. R4.00. London: Crosby Lockwood & Son Ltd. 1964.

Hierdie boek is 'n eerste poging om die verband tussen voedsel-elemente en virus-formasie te handel. Die outeur is wêreld-bekend as landboukundige-viroloog wat op die gebied van virogenese werk. In hierdie klein boek word 'n verrassende hoeveelheid informasie kort en bondig aangebied. 'n Eerste hoofstuk behandel die chemie van virus-deeltjies, die struktuur van kernsure, virus-proteïene en die beginsel van vermenigvuldiging. In die tweede hoofstuk word die vorming van 'n virus met betrekking tot selstofwisseling en voedsel-faktore bespreek. Die derde hoofstuk verklaar die meganisme van virus-induksie, aktivering van profage en die bestaan van 'n voor-virus (pre-virus).

Die boek bevat 52 afbeeldings en 'n bibliografie van 283 literatuurverwysings. Papier en druk is van uitstekende kwaliteit. Die boek is 'n ware bron van informasie vir elkeen wat belang stel in fundamentele virologie. H.D.B.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The Care of the Injured. By P. A. Ring, M.S., F.R.C.S. Pp. vii + 164. Illustrated. R2.50. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964.

The increasing frequency of road traffic accidents has called forth a spate of books dealing with various aspects of this subject. This particular one is not intended for any but the most junior hospital medical staff or for nurses. As such it fills a need and it can be recommended with the above reservations. T.S.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public and Community Health. By W. S. Parker, V.R.D., Q.H.P., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H. Pp. 196. R3.80. London: Staples Press. 1964.

This is a basic handbook on public health for medical students, nurses, social workers and others. Much of the material is of greater interest to public health workers in the United Kingdom than elsewhere, e.g. the chapters on 'The organisation of local government', 'Food and Drugs Act' and 'National Health Service'. Most aspects of public health are covered, including radiation and health. The book serves its purpose as a handbook and as such can be recommended. J.R.v.H.

NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

Operative Neurosurgery. 2nd ed. By E. S. Gurdjian, M.D., Ph.D. Pp. xviii + 560. Illustrated. R13.60. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co.; and London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1964.

The authors have managed to cover the vast field of neurological surgery in 850 pages. The text is well written, to the point, and flavoured with enough history to make it interesting reading. The second edition fills the gaps created by recent advances in the management of congenital hydrocephalus, vascular conditions and stereotactic surgery. The only criticism that I can level against this book is the multiple-plane, multiple-action dynamic drawings, with a modern touch. They do not convey the same resemblance to the actual anatomical structures as the old fashioned 'photographic' type of drawing. This is a serious drawback for the general surgeon or young neurosurgeon in training. The book rightly deserves a place on the book-shelf of every neurological surgeon. M.J.J.