

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS : BOEKRESENSIES

THE ABRAHAM FLEXNER LECTURES SERIES NUMBER TWELVE

*The Abraham Flexner Lectures Series Number Twelve. Psycho-analysis Practical and Research Aspects.* By Willi Hoffer, M.D. (Vienna), Ph.D. (Vienna), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edinburgh), L.R.F.P.S. (Glasgow). Pp. 102. 27s. 6d. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. Introduction. 2. Principles of Training in Psycho-analysis. 3. Internal Conflict and Anxiety. 4. Some Aspects of the Psychoanalytic Investigation of Childhood. 5. Ego Reactions in Cerebral Disease; A Case Report. 6. Some Problems of Ego-Psychology. References and Comments. Index.

In this volume which consists of five integrated lectures on psycho-analysis, Dr. Hoffer, the distinguished London psycho-analyst and editor of *The International Journal of Psycho-analysis*, reveals his great practical experience and wealth of academic training. The writer's main contribution in these lectures is to show that mental hospitals have ceased to be the yardsticks for measuring the confines of psychiatry. Psychiatry has outgrown such narrow conceptions and has subjected itself to a process of further differentiation, having established closer links with academic psychology, with anthropology, sociology, genetics and with the teaching and methods of investigation of Sigmund Freud.

Dr. Hoffer's clear view of the subject and pertinent observations make his book invaluable to anyone working in the field of psycho-analysis.

A.P.B.

### REMOVAL OF TONSILS

*Donne e fanciulli meno felici.* By I. e G. Calderoli. Pp. 231 with illustrations. Bergamo: Scuole Professionali T.O.M. 1955.

*Contents:* Wuestine tonsillare. Note. Prefazione. Capitolo. 1°—Stati Uniti—Inghilterra. 2°—I fanciulli. 3°—Le giovani. 4°—Le nubili. 5°—Le donne e i loro uomini. 6°—I fidanzati. 7°—Riflessi sociali. 8°—Gli sposati. 9°—La tendenza adiposogenitale.

In this monograph of 225 pages the brothers, doctors Innocente and Guido Calderoli continue their crusade against the wholesale removal of tonsils, particularly in the young, without due regard to the consequences in later life. Much of the book, therefore, is repetition of previously stated views. They insist they are not opposed to tonsillectomy but to 'tonsillectomania'. They base their objections on the conviction that the individual without tonsils is less masculine or less feminine, less energetic and less courageous in the battle of life than the individual who had retained them.

The book includes a map of the world which claims to represent the degree to which various nations have been subjected to tonsillectomy. In Great Britain 60% of the population have had their tonsils removed; in the USA 50%, France 15%, Scandinavia 10%, Germany 7%, Spain and Italy 3%. The source of these statistics is not mentioned.

The theory is that the tonsil produces an internal hormone, which is a necessary factor in the human economy, and deprivation of this hormone brings many evils in its wake. The authors acknowledge the necessity for tonsillectomy in certain cases, but they plead for careful deliberation before advising the operation, particularly in children under ten years of age.

In every field of human endeavour, according to the authors, the person without tonsils functions at a disadvantage. Thus the British working man no longer works with the same productive zeal, the American soldier does not fight with same courage and determination today as his father did in the 1914-1918 war, and the tame, domesticated American husband helping with the household chores is but a poor copy of the audacious go-getter of previous generations.

A justification of the title of the book 'Unhappy Women and Children' is attempted in the first part, which consists mostly of a long recitation of the woes and ills which patients have noted in

themselves after tonsillectomy. Women lose their charm and fascination, and suffer from headaches and melancholia. Children become apathetic and young girls lose their feminine grace of movement. In courtship and in marriage these traits bring frustration and unhappiness.

In the second part of the book certain physical changes noted by the authors are surveyed. A large number of tonsillectomized children, for instance, develop a mild adiposa-genitalis. Oedema of the lower limbs is frequently met in others.

The originality of the idea and the forceful manner in which the arguments are brought forward may command the attention of the reader without achieving his conversion. It will require more proof than is contained in this book before the profession will be led to believe, that the removal of the tonsils is a semi-castration leading to alarming physical and social consequences on a national scale.

C.K.O'M.

### INFANTILE GASTRO-ENTERITIS

*The Aetiology of Epidemic Infantile Gastro-Enteritis.* By J. Smith, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. Pp. 104 with illustrations. Edinburgh: The Royal College of Physicians. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. Historical Epidemiology. II. Review of the Literature on the Bacteriology of the Disease. III. The Classification of *E. coli* Strains Associated with Infantile Gastro-Enteritis. IV. The Epidemic of Infantile Gastro-Enteritis in Aberdeen during 1947. V. The Association of Specific Types of *E. coli* with Cases of Infantile Gastro-Enteritis. VI. The Presence of Agglutinins in Human Sera for the Antigens of Strains of *E. coli* commonly Associated with Infantile Gastro-Enteritis. VII. The Sensitivity of Antibiotics to Strains of *E. coli* Associated with Infantile Gastro-Enteritis. VIII. Discussion on the Significance of Specific Types of *E. coli* in the Aetiology, Epidemiology and Control of Epidemic Infantile Gastro-Enteritis. References.

For those who are in any way associated with infantile gastro-enteritis this small book is as enthralling as a detective novel. A large part of the contents is primarily of interest to the bacteriologist but there is a great deal of information bearing on the clinical application of the bacteriology. The conclusion is that the requirements of Koch's postulates have been fulfilled and that 11 of the 'O' groups of *E. coli* have been found guilty of causing gastro-enteritis.

The monograph should be in the library of every medical school, children's hospital, and hospital governing-body and should be made compulsory reading for administrators and designers of hospitals. Other people whose work includes the care of infants will appreciate the help it gives to them in suggestions as to the handling of this common but dangerous disease and consider it a good investment.

F.J.F.

### NEURAL CONTROL OF THE PITUITARY GLAND

*Neural Control of the Pituitary Gland.* By G. W. Harris, F.R.S., Sc.D., M.D. Pp. 298, with illustrations. 30s. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd.

*Contents:* Chapter 1. Introduction. 2. Nerve Supply and Blood Supply of the Adenohypophysis (anterior pituitary gland). 3. Transplantation of Endocrine Glands. 4. Regulation of Gonadotrophic Secretion from the Anterior Pituitary Gland. 5. Regulation of Adrenocorticotrophic Secretion from the Anterior Pituitary Gland. 6. Regulation of the Secretion of the Thyrotrophic, Lactogenic and Growth Hormones. 7. Neurovascular Control of the Adenohypophysis. 8. Anatomy of the Hypothalamus. The nervous and blood supply of the Neurohypophysis. 9. Regulation of the Secretion of Antidiuretic Hormones. 10. Regulation of the Secretion of the Oxytocic Hormone. 11. The Nature and Site of Formation of Posterior Pituitary Hormone(s). 12. Maturation of the Hypothalamo-hypophyseal Mechanism. 13. Hormones and Behaviour. Author Index. Subject Index.

This is one of the monographs of the Physiological Society and as such is useful to advanced students of Physiology and practitioners

who are specially interested in that branch of medical science. It begins with a general statement of the effects of the nervous system on endocrine activity and of endocrine secretion on the nervous system.

After dealing with the various other functions associated with the pituitary gland it deals finally with the effect of hormones on behaviour.

The different aspects of the study have been arranged in an interesting and helpful manner and the illustrations and diagrams are appropriate and sufficient.

Although the book is advanced for the average practitioner there are many who will find it interesting.

A.H.T.

#### TRANSPLANTATION OF TISSUES

*Transplantation of Tissues. Cartilage, Bone, Fascia, Tendon, and Muscle.* Volume I. By Lyndon A. Peer, M.D. Pp. 421+xii with 163 illustrations. £5 2s. 6d. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. General Considerations. 2. Cartilage. 3. Bone. 4. Fascia and Tendon. 5. Muscle. 6. Theories of Cell Regeneration.

Tissue transplantation has within recent years become a well established surgical procedure and this book supplies a comprehensive study of the subject.

The author first reviews the earlier experimental work on animals which, on the whole, is somewhat confusing and contradictory. From there he proceeds to grafting in humans, in which the results are far more consistent.

The fate of animal grafts, whether living or dead, such as boiled beef bone, boiled or 'pickled' cartilage or kangaroo tendon, are discussed. Sooner or later these tissues are absorbed, although the occasional invasion of the bone grafts by the host's osteoblasts and its gradual replacement appears possible.

Homografts unfortunately suffer the same fate as heterogenous grafts, owing probably to an immune reaction. This view is strengthened by the fact that a further graft from the same source is destroyed more rapidly than the first.

If permanence is required the patient's own tissues must be used. In this volume the author deals with cartilage, bone, fascia, tendon and muscle.

Cartilage used to be the tissue of choice for many cosmetic corrections, but its subsequent tendency to bend has resulted in its replacement by bone in many cases. It stands, however, predominant in ear reconstruction. A new and interesting use of diced cadaver cartilage in spina-bifida repair is described. The use of cartilage in phalloplasty has, however, been omitted.

The uses of bone and tendon transplants in general surgery and orthopaedics are too well known to require comment. It is interesting, however, to see the large part played by free grafts in tendon injuries of the fingers.

This book should be of considerable interest to most surgeons.

N.P.

#### POPULAR MEDICINE

*Mankind Against the Killers:* By James Hemming. Pp. xii+231. 15/- net. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1956.

*Contents:* Foreword. Acknowledgements. 1. Man the Conqueror. 2. Unseen Enemies. 3. The History of the Killers. 4. Detective Story. 5. Germs on the Move. 6. Man can Hit Back. 7. Men should be Strong. 8. Easy Victims. 9. War on the Killers. 10. War on the Killers: II. 11. Strange Problems. 12. Nurses, Mothers and Children. 13. Racing Death. 14. The Front Line. 15. The Day after Tomorrow. 16. Man's last Enemy. Index.

Medical books written for the public have to be opened with care; too many are written with a watchful eye on royalties and a prayerful knee to Hollywood. And the dramatic short medical article highlighting something sensational—like chlorophyll—which is here today and gone tomorrow—is the most deplorable of all such writings. Hardly less deplorable is the dull textbookish work which has to be wearily waded through. Therefore to open, to read, to be fascinated, by such a book as 'Mankind Against The Killers' is to discover a brilliant literary gem among both the flashy and the dull ore on the bookshelves of popular medical science.

The author is an experienced exponent and a skilled writer,

whose simplicity of style appeals, like R. L. Stevenson, to youth of all ages. One must indeed have ceased to love life not to find James Hemming's book exciting and stimulating. His premise is clear and direct: man's task to conquer Nature, and to conquer himself—the highest physico-mental aspect of Nature. He chooses for his subject Nature's own war against man: disease. Men who have made medical history—indeed world history—live again in startling simplicity in his pages: Leeuwenhoek, Spallanzani, Koch, Pasteur, Pinel, Ross, Yersin, Erlich, Kitasato, Reed, Fleming.

In order to develop his theme, he has to give some elementary instruction in regard to the bacteriological causation of disease. This perhaps is the least satisfying aspect of his book, but by no means dull and uninteresting.

One reads this book with increasing interest as its exciting story develops to the climax of the achievements of WHO—WHO directing its curative and preventive medicine among millions of people, and with its vision of hope and faith, which the author, with rare enthusiasm, instils into the reader's heart and mind.

F.B.P.

#### MIDWIFERY FOR MIDWIVES

*Midwifery.* Principles and Practice for Pupil Midwives, Teacher Midwives and Obstetric Dressers. Fourth Edition. By R. Christie Brown, Barton Gilbert, Donald B. Fraser and Richard H. Dobbs. viii+892. 25s. net. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd. 1956.

*Contents:* I. Scientific Principles. II. General Anatomy and Physiology. III. Special Anatomy. IV. Special Physiology and Normal Pregnancy. V. Normal Labour. VI. Normal Puerperium. VII. Management of Normal Pregnancy, Labour and Puerperium. VIII. Abnormal Pregnancy. IX. Disorders Associated with Pregnancy. X. Abnormal Labour. XI. Emergencies and Accidents of Labour. XII. The Abnormal Puerperium. XIII. The Child. XIV. Obstetric Operations. Index.

During the 15 years that have elapsed since the first edition of this text-book of midwifery it has attained a prominent and well merited place in the teaching of midwifery to student nurses. The subject matter is set out in an interesting manner and has been brought well up to date.

In common with other medical text-books it continues to grow in size and, as it has now reached well over 800 pages, it is suggested that the section on general Anatomy and Physiology be deleted from subsequent editions, for this matter can be found in standard nursing text-books and its deletion would reduce this book by 70 pages.

On page 445, in discussing the treatment of placenta praevia, the authors state that 'circumstances may arise, however, where haemorrhage is severe, and the midwife can neither send the patient into hospital, nor can she obtain medical aid. In these circumstances, dangerous as it may be, the midwife must prepare to treat the patient herself... (and) rupture the membranes where possible'. As it is in this type of case that the more serious degrees of placenta praevia will probably be present, one can well imagine the results that may follow this operative procedure carried out by someone with no previous experience. In their preface the authors stress that this would not apply to midwives practising in Great Britain; and one feels that this paragraph should be omitted from further editions of the book.

Apart from this criticism one can recommend this text-book whole-heartedly; and it should have little difficulty in maintaining the position it has won for itself in the field of midwifery.

T. St. V. B.

#### AN INDIAN REFRESHER COURSE

*Refresher Course for Practitioners.* Specially contributed Articles from the Journal of the Indian Medical Association. Volume I. Pp. 364 with illustrations. 8s. Calcutta, Tarani Kanta Basu. 1955.

*Contents:* Diagnosis and Treatment of Malaria. Keratomalacia. Prevention of Diphtheria. Management of Diphtheria. Background and Diagnosis of Bronchial and Cardiac Asthma. Management of Bronchial and Cardiac Asthma. Essential Hypertension. Pleurisy. The differential Diagnosis of Anaemias. Treatment of the Anaemias. Intestinal Obstruction. Acute Appendicitis. Amoebiasis and its

Management. Allergy. Antenatal Care. Care of the Puerperium. Coronary Thrombosis. Coronary Thrombosis. Peripheral Vascular Disease. Portal Cirrhosis. Burns and their Management. Role of Plastic Surgery in the Management of Injuries and Burns. Diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Chemotherapy in Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Peptic Ulcer. Treatment of Cholera. Cardiovascular Syphilis. Cardiovascular Emergencies. Eclampsia and its Management. Pelvic Pain and Backache in Women. Small Pox and its Management. Surgical Treatment of Senile Enlargement of the Prostate.

This little book is the first volume of a series of papers which have appeared in the Journal of the Indian Medical Association. They were designed to help the general practitioner to refresh his memory and, at the same time, to bring him up to date. The articles were contributed by recognized specialists practising in India and the choice of subject is wide, as will be seen from the chapter titles given above.

The Indian Medical Association is to be congratulated on its enterprise in providing this service to its many members, especially to those practising in the outlying areas of their vast country.

There is no doubt that they will appreciate this contribution of their Association and will find it of great benefit to them.

A.H.T.

## FORENSIC MEDICINE

*Forensic Medicine. A Textbook for Students and Practitioners.* Tenth edition. By Sir Sydney Smith, C.B.E., LL.D., M.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.P.H., F.R.S.E., Hon. M.D. Louvain, and Frederick Smith Fiddes, O.B.E., M.D. Pp. 644+xi with 173 illustrations. 40s. 0d. London: J. & A. Churchill, Ltd. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. Legal Procedure in England, Scotland and Ireland. 2. The Signs of Death and Subsequent Phenomena. 3. Sudden Death from Natural Causes. 4. Post-Mortem Examination of the Body. 5. Identification. 6. Wounds. 7. Injuries in Various Parts of the Body. 8. Self-Inflicted Wounds and Fabrications. 9. Wounds from Firearms. 10. Differential Diagnosis in States of Insensibility. 11. Examination of Blood Stains. 12. Injuries from Burns and Scalds. 13. Violent Death from Asphyxia. 14. Asphyxia from Breathing Irrespirable Gases. 15. Impotence and Sterility. 16. Rape and Indecent Offences. 17. Pregnancy and Delivery. 18. Abortion. 19. Infanticide or Child Murder. 20. Ethics and Law in the Conduct of Medical Practice. 21. Insanity. 22. Toxicology. 23. Corrosive Poisons. 24. Metallic Poisons. 25. Common Hypnotics, Antipyretics and Anaesthetics. 26. Vegetable Poisons. 27. Miscellaneous Poisons. 28. Food Poisoning. Appendixes. Index.

This book, which has been a standard authority for the last 30 years, is too well known to need comment. It is now in its 10th edition and will continue to meet the needs of students and practitioners for many years to come.

A book of such proved worth deserves only praise.

A.H.T.

## HYPNOSIS

*Hypnosis. Its Meaning and Practice.* By Eric Cuddon, M.A., B.C.L., Barrister-at-Law. Pp. 175+viii. 13s. 0d. London: G. Bell & Sons, Ltd. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. Introduction. The Inner Mind. 2. Tests of Suggestibility. 3. The Experimental Phenomena of Hypnosis. 4. Post Hypnotic Suggestion. 5. The Limitations of Suggestion. 6. Hypnosis in Medicine and Surgery. 7. The History of Hypnotism. 8. Theories of Hypnosis. Appendix. Books for Reference. Glossary.

The year 1955 may be regarded as an era of scientific progress in hypnosis and its application to psychosomatic medicine. It has been finally approved by the British Medical Association and is now being widely used throughout the world by the medical profession.

There has been a multitude of books published on hypnosis, and this particular book under review has been written by a barrister. The book explains in nontechnical language the real nature of hypnotism and what can be accomplished by its aid.

The reader is first introduced to the subconscious mind; by easy stages he is shown how to determine what persons he may be able to hypnotize, the various methods by which it is possible to induce a state of hypnosis, how to satisfy himself that he has succeeded, and how to end the condition when desired.

Chapters are devoted to the explanation of the various phenomena which can be evoked during the hypnotic state, the limitations of suggestion, and the use of hypnotism in medicine and surgery.

This book is primarily for the layman; it is not recommended for a doctor beginning the study of hypnosis.

S.K.

## A THEORY OF THE EFFECTS OF TONSILLECTOMY

*Il Sottosesso nei Popoli Senèa Tonsille.* By I. e G. Calderoli. Pp. 155. Bergamo: Tipografia Orfanotrofia Maschile. 1954.

*Contents:* Indice dei Capitoli. 1. Un'aberrazione della medicina nel secolo ventesimo. 2. La trappola dei bacilli. 3. Il problema tonsillare e problema sociale e di razza. 4. Il saggio del Dr. Gabbi. 5. Popoli ed eserciti senza tonsille. 6. Così combattono. 7. Così lavorano. 8. Così nello sport. 9. Il male inglese di Bicknell. 10. Così bevono. 11. Così con la donna. 12. E la donna? 13. Conclusione e recensioni. 14. Autoriassunto. 15. Aforismi tonsillari.

Why has the productive capacity of British workers fallen off so markedly in recent years? What caused the alleged lack of combative spirit in the American Forces in World War II and in Korea? To what factor was the 'annoying' quality found in American men by the Italian actress Sylvana Pampanini due?

To these and to many other questions of racial and social importance the doctors I. and E. Calderoli, of Bergamo, Italy, are satisfied that they have a convincing answer—the removal of tonsils in childhood.

In this small book the authors devote themselves to the task of exposing the diverse and evil effects which have accrued to humanity in the last 40 years as the result of what they call the 'fashion of tonsillectomy'. For them the tonsil is far more than a mere outpost in the defence system of the body, a sieve or trap for micro-organisms. They regard it as the producer of an internal hormone which profoundly influences the psyche, particularly in relation to the sex-behaviour pattern of the individual and its attendant qualities.

The man or woman without tonsils is a semi-castrate according to the doctors Calderoli, and the present book is one more item in a long sustained campaign drawing the attention of world authorities to a practice which, they claim, is steadily undermining the morale of whole race-groups.

The arguments and conclusions of the authors are based on their personal observations of thousands of case histories which revealed great alteration in character after the removal of the tonsils in childhood. They quote extensively from the worlds' press and the utterances of public figures. Four authors are a frequent source of fuel for the fire of their burning enthusiasm.

In a chapter entitled 'How they fight' ('they' being soldiers who had had their tonsils removed) the disquieting revelations of General S. L. A. Marshall in his book *Men Against Fire* are repeated. It appears that in World War II only 12-25% of American soldiers fired rifles in actual engagements. Their fingers found the triggers of their rifles, but some inexplicable lack of the fighting instinct caused them at the last moment to relax the pressure. It is stated that arms inspections after battle established this fact. In Korea even under severe enemy pressure the fire-power of a unit never exceeded 50% of that available.

Through the pages of Kinsey's books on sex behaviour, Dr. Bicknell's *The English Complaint*, and excerpts from Zweig's *The English Working Men* we follow the slow, hesitant trail of the tonsilless through their unromantic, timid love affairs, their childless, frustrated marriages, their defeats on the sports grounds, their ineffective labours in the factories. And this long list of routs and dicomfitures, scattered through 14 chapters, is well and truly laid at the door of tonsillectomy.

No proofs are brought forward that the tonsils do in fact secrete a hormone that might change the timorous recruit into a fierce warrior or transform the hesitant, semi-castrated youth into a rampant, vigorous lover. This is the weak point in a diverting book written with the fervour and conviction of an apostle witnessing the approach of an avoidable doom.

Although the doctors Calderoli are obviously sure of the soundness of their thesis there is one reader at least to whom they seem to commit the facile fault in logic of Enthymeme—jumping to conclusions.

A visiting commission from another planet, perusing the map which illustrates the author's views, might conceivably associate the 50% lack of tonsils in the Anglo-Saxon peoples with their undoubted political and technological advancement, and attribute to the preponderance of intact fauces (97%) the gracious tempo of life which is the charm of certain Latin countries. I leave it to others, better qualified than I to judge.

C.K.O'M.