

REVIEWS OF BOOKS : BOEKRESENSIES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Modern Public Health for Medical Students. By I. G. Davies, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H. Pp. 487 with illustrations. 30s. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd.

Contents: Chapter 1. The Nature and Scope of Public Health. 2. Heredity and the Public Health. 3. Nutrition and the Public Health. 4. The Measurement of Health. 5. Health and Welfare Legislation. The Organization of Medico-

Social Care. 6. The National Health Service Acts, 1946-52. 7. National Insurance. 8. Diseases of Special Social Importance. 9. Mental Health. 10. Occupational Health. 11. Rehabilitation and Resettlement. 12. Handicapped Persons. 13. Maternal Health and Welfare. 14. The Health and Welfare of the Infant and Young Child. 15. The School Child. 16. Communicable Diseases. 17. International Health. 18. Accidents in the Home. 19. Health Education. Index.

This is a public-health text-book with a difference, in that the author has omitted technical descriptions of the sanitary aspects of water supply, drainage and general sanitation. He has concen-

trated more on the wider field of 'social pathology' and has attempted to show the significance and importance of the community aspects of ill-health and to teach the purpose of the legislative, administrative and social measures which the state has adopted for the maintenance of the public health. The diversity of the subjects can be seen from the chapter titles above and as it was written for students and practitioners in the United Kingdom it is inevitable that there should be extensive references to the progress made in a 'welfare state'. It is an interesting book and most informative.

A.H.T.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE

Textbook of Occupational Therapy. With Chief Reference to Psychological Medicine. By Eamon N. M. O'Sullivan, B.A., M.B., D.P.M. Pp. 319 — x with illustrations. 21s. 0d. London: H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. Introduction. 2. Definition and History of Occupational Therapy. 3. Principles, Rules, Objects, and Advantages of Occupational Therapy. 4. Classifications and Subdivisions of Occupational Therapy. 5. Development and Organisation—Administrative Personnel. 6. Development and Organisation (cont.), Sections and Units. Handicraft Section. 7. Sections and Units (cont.). Recreational Section—General Analysis. 8. Sections and Units (cont.). Recreational Therapy Section—Special Analysis. 9. Sections and Units (cont.). Re-Educational Section. 10. Sections and Units (cont.). Commercial Section. 11. Psychological Analysis—Mental Diseases. 12. Psychological Analysis (cont.).—Mental States. 13. Craft Analysis—General. 14. Special Craft Analysis—Willowcraft, Canecraft, etc. 15. Special Craft Analysis—Woodcraft. 16. Special Craft Analysis—Woodcraft (cont.). 17. Special Craft Analysis—Weaving. 18. Special Craft Analysis—Weaving (cont.). Bibliography. Index.

Dr. Sullivan has obviously waded through a great deal of scattered literature on the subject and been most painstaking in putting his material ship-shape in order to give the correct modern approach.

The development of occupational therapy throughout the world, and in particular at the Killarney Mental Hospital, is mentioned. He stipulates that occupational therapy is primarily a form of treatment which must at all times be under expert medical direction: that it must be evolved on a definite system and applied methodically; that the patient's competence and interests must be considered in relation to the work to be prescribed, the treatment being judged only by its effect on the patient; and that the occupational therapist must have the necessary technical knowledge, a special aptitude for imparting instructions, and a suitable temperament and manner.

The advantages of occupational therapy are discussed as: (1) psychological—the effect of work, the personal reactions of the patient and the benefits to the hospital and community; (2) physical—a properly planned programme of work and exercises, which must improve the bodily health and create favourable interactions between mental and bodily processes; (3) economic—its value to the hospital and the community.

The author discusses in detail the organization required to administer a large mental hospital. The various mental states and symptoms of patients referred for treatment are outlined. General craft-analysis is explained, while basketry, woodcraft and weaving are fully considered under the following headings: (1) Qualities, both subjective (sedative or stimulative) and objective—complexity, flexibility, novelty, variety and utility. (2) Economic—(a) equipment, (b) materials and (c) sales; emphasis being laid upon the fact that the therapeutic value must always be foremost. (3) Technical—covering the various operations and activities met with. (4) Psychological. (5) Physical. (6) Advantages. (7) Disadvantages.

This book fills a gap, and makes good reading. It has a large bibliography and an excellent index. And it is highly commended to the reader.

R.R.B.

A SHORT TEXT-BOOK OF SURGERY

A Short Text-book of Surgery. Sixth Edition. By C. F. W. Illingworth, C.B.E., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), Hon. F.A.C.S. Pp. 628 + viii with illustrations. 37s. 6d. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. Safety Factors in Surgery. 2. Healing and Repair of Wounds. 3. Wound Infections. 4. Actinomycosis. 5. Tuberculosis. 6. The Venereal Diseases. 7. Shock and Haemorrhage. 8. Burns and Scalds. 9. The Skin and Subcutaneous Tissues. 10. The Muscles, Tendons, Tendon Sheaths and Bursae. 11. The Peripheral and Autonomic Nerves. 12. The Blood Vessels. 13. The Lymph Glands and Vessels. 14. Affections of Bones. 15. Affections of Joints. 16. The Shoulder Girdle and Arm. 17. The Elbow Region. 18. The Forearm, Wrist and Hand. 19. The Hip and Thigh. 20. The region of the Knee. 21. The Leg, Ankle and Foot. 22. The Skull and Brain. 23. The Spine and Spinal Cord. 24. The Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. 25. The Face, Mouth, Tongue, Jaws. 26. The Neck. 27. The Thyroid and Parathyroid Glands. 28. The Larynx, Pharynx and Oesophagus. 29. The Breast. 30. The Thorax. 31. The Abdominal Wall and Hernia. 32. The Peritoneum. 33. Abdominal Emergencies. 34. The Stomach and Duodenum. 35. The Intestines. 36. The Rectum and Anus. 37. The Biliary Tract. 38. The Pancreas. 39. The Spleen. 40. The Adrenal Glands. 41. The Appendix. 42. The Kidney and Ureter. 43. The Bladder and Urethra. 44. The Male Genital Tract. 45. The Female Genital Tract. 46. Radiotherapy and Physiotherapy. Index.

This latest edition of this well-known short Textbook of Surgery will be well received by all who have used and admired its predecessors. That it is the 6th edition in sixteen years shows the demand for it, and is evidence of its popularity. It is probably the best solution available of the problem of constructing a comprehensive, but short, text-book of surgery.

In such a work it is impossible to please everybody's choice of what to include and what to omit, but Professor Illingworth, like Agag, has walked delicately and achieved a maximum result with a minimum economy of effort as expressed in the number of pages.

The illustrations are good, the printing and production pleasing, and the uniformity of style and approach make it very readable.

R.D.H.B.