

## BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKRESENSIES

### HANDBOOK OF RADIOLOGY

*Handbook of Radiology.* Edited by Russell H. Morgan, M.D. (Pp. 518 + x with illustrations and tables. \$10.00.) Chicago: Year Book Publishers. 1955.

*Contents:* 1. Definitions of Physical Terms and Units. 2. General Physical Information. 3. Radiotherapeutic Data. 4. Radioisotopes. 5. Radiography and Fluoroscopy. 6. Radiation Protection. Appendices. Index.

Radiology has been defined as 'that branch of Medical Science which deals with the use of radiant energy in the diagnosis and

treatment of disease'. The title of this book is therefore somewhat of a misnomer since, whilst giving an enormous amount of painstakingly collected and very valuable physical data, its other sections in so large a field are necessarily deficient. It would perhaps perform a greater service if those sections on Radiodiagnosis were published separately and certain others, such as those on Radioisotopes, amplified to form a 'Handbook of Radiological Physics'.

Further this basically useful little book is marred by a number of minor technical errors in its generally clear and attractive production.

R.S.

## SOSIALE KINDERHIGIËNE

*De Sociale Kinderhygiëne in Nederland.* Deur Dr. J. T. Buma. Pp. 105. f. 5.90. Assen: Van Gorcum & Comp. N.V. 1954.

*Inhoud:* 1. Inleiding en Doelstelling. 2. Definities. 3. Biologie van het Kind. 4. Psychologie van het Kind. 5. De Sociale Contacten van het Kind. 6. Algemene Beschouwingen. 7. Conclusies en aanbevelingen. Résumé. Summary. Literature.

Hierdie boek is uitgekies as die beste antwoord op 'n prysvraag van die *Bond vir Moederkunde en Kindergesondheidsorg in Nederland* oor die rigting wat hulle organisasie nou verder moet inslaan.

Geskrywe in 'n land waar 'gastro-enteritis' en 'aansteeklike siektes' as 'n oorsaak van dood op die leeftyd van 0-1 jaar verdwyn het, lewer die boek 'n oorsig wat vir enige land in die wêreld belangwekkend is, en dit nie enkel vir dokter of kinderarts nie, maar ook vir sielkundige of opvoedkundige.

Die gesonde selfkritiek is aangenaam om te lees; dit is verrassend om te sien in hoe min bladsye 'n groot aantal gesins- en skoolprobleme wetenskaplik gestel word en doeltreffende voorstelle aan die hand gegee word.

Die boek moet aanbeveel word.

E.J.

## GYNAECOLOGY IN THE CONSULTING ROOM

*Office Gynecology.* By J. P. Greenhill, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S. Sixth Edition. Pp. 517, with 127 illustrations. \$7.75. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers Inc. 1954.

*Contents:* 1. Office Equipment Necessary for Gynecologic Practice. 2. Taking a History. 3. The Gynecologic Examination. 4. Examination of the Breasts. 5. Diseases of the Vulva. 6. Postpartum Care: Prophylactic Gynecology. 7. Trichomonas Vaginalis Vaginitis. 8. Vaginal Discharge Due to Mycotic and Similar Organisms. 9. Gonorrhoea in Adults. 10. Vulvovaginitis in Children: Gonorrhoeal and Nonspecific. 11. Condylomata Acuminata. 12. The Uterine Cervix: Its Disturbances and Their Treatment. 13. Dyspareunia and Frigidity. 14. Psychosomatic Gynecology. 15. Sterility. 16. The Rubin Test: Transuterine Insufflation of Gas. 17. Hystersalpingography. 18. Artificial Insemination. 19. Culdoscopy. 20. Vaginal Pessaries. 21. Conservative Treatment of Pelvic Inflammation. 22. Pelvic Tuberculosis. 23. Vaginal Douches. 24. Backache. 25. Stress Incontinence and Genital Relaxation: Nonsurgical Treatment. 26. Control of Conception: The Safe Period or Rhythm Method. 27. Control of Conception: Mechanical Devices. 28. The Sedimentation Test. 29. Local Anesthesia in the Office. 30. General Anesthesia for Office Procedures. 31. Office Treatment of Bartholin's Gland Abscess and Cyst. 32. The Intra-cervical Stem Pessary. 33. Gynecologic and Obstetric Endocrinology. 34. Normal Menstruation. 35. Menstrual Irregularities. 36. The Climacteric or Menopause. 37. Senile Vaginitis. 38. Pruritus Vulvae. 39. Kraurosis Vulvae, Leukoplakia Vulvae and Chronic Atrophic Dermatitis of the Vulva. 40. Diagnosis of Preinvasive Uterine Carcinoma by Vaginal and Cervical Smears. 41. The Schiller Test for Carcinoma of the Cervix. 42. Invasive Carcinoma of the Uterus. 43. Intraspinal (Subarachnoid) Injection of Alcohol for Pain from Carcinoma of the Genitals. 44. Office Urology. 45. Office Protology. 46. Obesity. 47. Premarital Examination and Advice. Index.

'Office Gynecology' is 'n uitstekende boek. Dit is een van die mees bruikbare boeke oor die onderwerp wat daar te verkry is en is nie alleen van waarde vir die algemene praktisyn nie maar ook vir die spesialis op die gebied. By uitstek kan die boek egter aanbeveel word by die algemene praktisyn en veral by die jong arts wat sy praktyk begin. Die inhoud dek byna alle toestande waarmee in aanraking gekom sal word in die praktyk en bowen-

dien is die indeling duidelik en kan enigiets maklik en gou nage-slaan word.

Een van die groot waardes van die boek is die kort en bondige maar tog duidelike manier waarop alle behandelings aangedui word. Dit is moeilik om 'n klage of aandoening op die gebied voor te stel waarvoor daar nie 'n behandeling voor gegee word nie. Wat die boek so aantreklik maak is dat dit in klein formaat is en tog baie volledig is. Die skryftaal is bondig maar gee tog nooit die indruk van 'n opsomming nie.

Om 'n oorsig te gee van die inhoud is hier onprakties want die veld wat gedek word is te wyd, maar op 'n paar dinge is tog aanmerkings te maak. Eerstens moet gemeld word dat die illustrasies goed is en goed aangepas is by die teks, m.a.w. hulle is maklik leesbaar, duidelik en tog mooi. Die inhoud is tot op datum en nie verouderd nie. Dopsyne hulpvolle wenke word gegee wat nie in die gewone teksboek te vinde is nie, bv. hoe vaginale uitspoelings nou juis gegee moet word.

Daar is nie juis fout te vind met hierdie bevredigende boek nie, maar op 'n baie belangrike punt verskil ek tog met die skrywer: nl. met die manier waarop die rektro-vaginale ondersoek gedoen word. Ek is oortuig daarvan dat veel meer gevoel kan word as die wysvinger in die vagina gehou word en die middelvinger in die rektum geplaas word. Op hierdie manier is die ondersoek meer gemaklik vir beide pasiënt en arts en kan ook veel meer waargeneem word.

Ten laaste wil ek net hierdie boek sterk aanbeveel by alle finale jaar mediese studente. Hulle sal vind dat dit maklike en interessante leesstof vir die naweek aanbied.

D. A. H. du T.

'Office Gynecology' is an excellent book. It is a very useful book for the general practitioner, and indeed the specialist also, to have. The field covered is extensive and the arrangement of the subject matter makes it easy to find the particular condition or treatment one is looking for.

One of the virtues of the book is the concise but still very readable way in which treatments are described. It is difficult to think of any gynaecological complaint or treatment not described. The descriptions are short and clear but never give the impression of summaries.

Because the field covered is so wide it is not practicable to give a complete review of the contents but a few things deserve mention. In the first place the illustrations are pleasant to look at and at the same time clear and easy to understand and well adapted to the text. Secondly the book is up to date and contains many helpful hints which the general practitioner will not find in any other gynaecological book.

One important point on which I do not agree with the author is the manner in which he advises the recto-vaginal examination to be made. In my experience it is far better to keep the index finger in the vagina while at the same time inserting the middle finger into the rectum.

In conclusion I would like to recommend this book to all final-year medical students. They will find that it contains enjoyable and interesting reading matter for the idle hours over the week-end.

D. A. H. du T.