

BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKRESENSIES

THORACIC SURGERY

Thoracic Surgical Management. Second Edition. By J. R. Belcher, M.S., F.R.C.S. and I. W. B. Grant, M.B. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Edin.). Pp. 216 + ix with 78 illustrations. 21s. 0d. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. General Principles. 2. Radiology. 3. Artificial Pneumothorax. 4. Artificial Pneumoperitoneum. 5. Aspiration of the Pleura. 6. Bronchoscopy. 7. Bronchography. 8. Acute Empyema. 9. Chronic Empyema. 10. Lobectomy. 11. Pneumonectomy. 12. Mediastinal Tumours and Cysts. 13. Heart and Great Vessels. 14. Lesions of Oesophagus. 15. Spontaneous Pneumothorax. 16. Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 17. Thoracoplasty. 18. Thoracoscopy. 19. Extrapleural Pneumothorax. 20. Miscellaneous Procedures. Index.

A second edition of this book is evidence of its continuing popularity with all those concerned with the care of patients undergoing thoracic operations.

The usual pre-operative investigations required for pulmonary and cardiac surgical cases are described in detail. The post-operative phase may be fraught with difficulties for the house surgeon; serious complications can only be avoided by careful and correct management of the case. The post-operative management is clearly described in this book, the technique of treatment being illustrated by simple drawings.

The opening chapters describe general lines of treatment, with the valuable addition of a description of the radiological appearance of the segmental distribution of lung lobes.

The chapter on bronchoscopy is well planned and complete, but the following two important facts have been omitted: firstly, that the patient should always be tested for sensitivity to a local anaesthetic and, secondly, that the danger of oedema of the glottis in infants after bronchoscopy is due not to infection, but to an unduly long procedure.

The section on artificial pneumothorax is unnecessarily long, for this line of treatment is now outmoded.

This book will prove of inestimable value, not only to those entering the wards for the first time, but also to senior students and nurses.

W.L.P.

RAMON Y CAJAL

Studies on the Cerebral Cortex (Limbic Structures). By Santiago Ramon Y Cajal. Translated from the Spanish by Lisbeth M. Kraft. Pp. 179 + xi with illustrations. 27s. 6d. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. The Structure of the Olfactory Cortex of Man and Mammals. 2. The Structure of the Accessory Olfactory Lobule. 3. The Structure of the Septum Lucidum. 4. On a Special Ganglion of the Spheno-Occipital Cortex.

This first English translation of some of Cajal's classical papers on the limbic system of the brain gives the anatomical evidence on which much modern physiological and psychological theory is based. Although the work was done more than fifty years ago it has stood up well to subsequent investigations.

The detailed histology of the olfactory bulb and tract and of the limbic lobe of the cerebral cortex inevitably makes difficult reading and the style of the translation does little to lighten the task. The book is adequately illustrated but the plates, like the text, reflect the fashion of the turn of the century.

The work is of considerable historical value and its translation into English will be welcomed by specialists in neuro-histology, but it is not likely to find a place on the shelves of the general histologist, physiologist or psychologist.

A.W.S.

HOSPITAL STORIES

Ladies in Emergency. By Alasdair Sinclair. Pp. 185. 10s. 6d. London: Christopher Johnson Publishers Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. A Memorable Night at St. Cuthbert's. 2. Quick Work at the West London Hospital for Women. 3. Bleeding Nearly Claims a Victim. 4. My Worst Nightmare. 5. Some Doctors are Incorrigible. 6. The Criminal Abortionist does His Worst. 7. But Sometimes We are Just Too Good for Him. 8. Surgeons and Swabs—Forgetfulness has its Penalties. 9. A Night-time Emergency at the Valley Nursing Home. 10. The Importance of Early Rising.

I have enjoyed reading 'Ladies in Emergency'. It is a collection of short stories which begin by bringing back those happy days

spent as a student and houseman and go on to describe incidents in a busy obstetrical and gynaecological practice.

They are interesting and easy to read, for the author's style is crisp and pleasant. While he is critical of those of his colleagues who do not come up to the required standards of professional conduct he is unstinting in his praise of those whose work is all that could be desired. The situations he describes are well drawn and one is conscious of their tenseness at times. I feel sure that you will enjoy it too.

A.H.T.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

A Textbook of Clinical Pathology. Fifth Edition. Edited by Seward E. Miller, M.D. Pp. xxx + 1208 with 212 illustrations and 28 Colour Plates. 88s. 0d. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. Blood Techniques. By L. W. Diggs. 2. Blood Cells. Bone Marrow Examination. By L. W. Diggs. 3. Anemias, Erythrocytoses, Hemoglobinurias, and Abnormal Compounds. By L. W. Diggs. 4. Laboratory Tests used in the Diagnosis and Management of Hemorrhagic and Thromboembolic Diseases. By L. W. Diggs. 5. Diseases Primarily Affecting Leukocytes. By I. Davidsohn. 6. Blood Groups. Including Pretransfusion and other Immunohaematologic Tests. By I. Davidsohn. 7. Blood Chemistry. By Clarence Cohn and Alex Kaplan. 8. Hepatic Tests. By Clarence Cohn and Alex Kaplan. 9. The Assay of Chemotherapeutic and Antibiotic Agents. By Albert Milzer. 10. Diagnosis of Viral and Rickettsial Disease. By Albert Milzer. 11. Immunologic Tests. By Ralph McBurney. 12. Medical Bacteriology. By Albert Milzer. 13. Medical Mycology. By Emma S. Moss and Albert W. McQuown. 14. Medical Parasitology. By Seward E. Miller. 15. The Assay of Vitamins. By Emmerich von Haam. 16. The Assay of Hormones. By Emmerich von Haam. 17. Examination of Transudates, Exudates, Skin and Mucous Membranes. By Emmerich von Haam. 18. The Diagnosis of Venereal Lesions. By Emmerich von Haam. 19. Syphilis Serology. By Seward E. Miller. 20. Cerebrospinal Fluid. 21. Renal Function Tests and Urine Examination. By Seward E. Miller. 22. Saliva, Sputum, and Bronchial Aspirates. By Seward E. Miller. 23. Gastric and Duodenal Contents. By Seward E. Miller. 24. Seminal Fluid. By Seward E. Miller. 25. Faeces. By Seward E. Miller.

Since it first appeared in 1938 this book has shown its usefulness in the fact that it is now in the 5th edition and that there have been seven other reprintings.

The present revision has been thorough and new chapters have been added on medical bacteriology, medical mycology and medical parasitology. Two other new chapters have been developed on seminal fluid and faeces. Many of the chapters have been re-designed and expanded, particularly that portion dealing with renal-function tests and urine examination. The rapid advances in the field of haematology have resulted in extensive changes in the chapters on this subject, and the chapter on liver function has been completely re-designed, as also that dealing with immunological tests. Similar transformations are found in other chapters, particularly those dealing with the assays of vitamins and hormones. Many more improvements are to be found and the work has been brought up to date in a very thorough manner. The indexing is now so complete in detail and cross-references that it would be difficult to find fault with it.

The whole work is a storehouse of authoritative information on this specialized subject, and both students and practitioners will find it to be of considerable use in interpreting and evaluating the results of clinical pathological tests, which are so often inadequately understood.

A.H.T.

A BRITISH YEARBOOK OF TREATMENT

Modern Treatment Yearbook 1956. Edited by Sir Cecil Wakeley, Bt., K.B.E., C.B., Ll.D., M.Ch., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.A., F.A.C.S. Pp. 344 + xxiii, with illustrations. 25s. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, Ltd. 1956.

Contents: Chapter I. Biliary Obstruction and its Treatment. Chapter II. The Treatment of Burns. 3. First Aid in Obstetrics. 4. The Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis. 5. The Management of Common Athletic Injuries. 6. Barbiturate Poisoning and its Treatment. 7. Basal-Cell Carcinoma (Rodent Ulcer) and its Treatment. 8. Aene Vulgaris. 9. Antibiotics in General Practice Today. 10. Pink Disease. 11. Worms. 12. Treatment of Idiopathic Epilepsy. 13. Hydatid Disease of the Liver. 14. Cysts of the Lung. 15. Acute Virus Hepatitis. 16. Brain Disease and Mental Deterioration in Later Life. 17. The Long-term Management of Rheumatoid Arthritis. 18. The Diagnosis and Treatment of Hypertension. 19. The Care of Children's Eyes. 20. Resuscitation of the New-Born. 21. Cirrhosis. 22. Portal Obstruction and its Treatment. 23. Otitis Externa. 24. The Treatment of Acute

Asthma and Status Asthmaticus. 25. Migraine. 26. The Management of Coronary Artery Diseases in General Practice. 27. Carcinoma of the Larynx. 28. Cleft Lip and Palate. 29. The Treatment of Depression. 30. Cancer of the Rectum. 31. Glaucoma. 32. Bronchitis and Infective Asthma. 33. The Place of Orthopaedics in the Treatment of Poliomyelitis. 34. Salivary Gland Tumours. 35. Carcinoma of the Body of the Uterus. 36. Modern Views on Malaria. 37. Seborrhoeic Conditions.

This year-book is designed to keep the general practitioner informed on the practical application of recent research. In the 1956 volume, in the space of 350 pages, 37 different subjects are discussed; naturally, therefore, no subject can be dealt with in detail in this review. The subjects chosen cover all aspects of clinical practice and are astonishingly various; it is rather disconcerting, on reading through the volume, to find the management of coronary-artery disease wedged between migraine and carcinoma of the larynx.

Each chapter is written by a different author who is a recognized authority on the subject. Treatment is emphasized throughout, though clinical findings and underlying theory are mentioned. Some of the treatments discussed are in everyday use by the general practitioner, e.g. asthma and epilepsy, while others involve intricate surgical techniques such as cancer of the rectum. The authors can hardly do themselves justice in the space allowed and on the whole the articles are bald and dogmatic and the references few.

It must be admitted, however, that this condensation makes the articles clear and simple. Some are very fine; for example, Porter's article on epilepsy and R. Milnes Walker's article on portal obstruction are masterpieces of clarity. Here, in one volume, is readily accessible a great deal of practical information and the book must surely fulfil a useful function for the busy doctor who cannot keep up with the flood of current medical literature.

H.A.B.

MALARIA

Man's Mastery of Malaria. By Paul F. Russell, M.D., M.P.H. Pp. 308 + xiv, with 20 illustrations. 25s. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege Oxford University Press. 1955.

Contents: Section I: The Unfolding of Malaria Aetiology. 1. Speculations. 2. The Parasite. 3. The Mosquito. 4. Hidden Plasmodia. Section II: 5. Pre-Cinchona Period. 6. The Quinine Period. 7. The Modern Period. Section III: The Development of Malaria Prophylaxis. 8. Drainage. 9. Malaria Prevention by Drugs. 10. Larvicides. 11. Prophylaxis against Adult Mosquitoes. 12. The DDT Era. 13. Malaria Recession. 14. Insect Resistance to Toxicants. Section IV: Some International Aspects of Malaria. 15. Multilateral Efforts. 16. Bilateral Governmental Agencies. 17. Malaria Activities of the Rockefeller Foundation. Section V: Malaria and Society. 18. Malaria Prophylaxis and Population Pressure.

Few readers of the *Journal* are likely to be acquainted with the history of malaria in more than its broad outlines, but none will fail to enjoy this most readable account of 'the long struggle against malaria now flowing so dramatically in man's favour'.

The author is careful to warn that 'mastery' does not mean 'to eradicate' but 'to reduce to subjection' and that having prevailed over an opposing force one has assumed moral responsibility for keeping it in control.

The presentation of the facts has been made most absorbing by the way in which emphasis has been placed on the high lights of the story without allowing the minutiae to dull the main picture.

The account of the unfolding of malaria aetiology and the unravelling of malaria therapy and prophylaxis is complete up to 1955, but the recent advances may yet acquire a new perspective. There follows also a most interesting section on the international aspects of malaria and its influence upon society.

An excellent book recommended highly to all readers of the *Journal*.

A.K.

MALARIA

Malaria: A World Problem. By E. J. Pampana, M.D. and P. F. Russell, M.D., M.P.H. Pp. 72, with 25 illustrations. 3s. 6d. Geneva: World Health Organization. 1955.

Contents: 1. Nature and Extent of the Problem. 2. Methods of Control. 3. National and International Action against Malaria. 4. Towards World-Wide Elimination of Malaria. 5. Papers on Malaria Published by WHO.

This publication, a reprint of a special number of the *Chronicle of the World Health Organization* (1955, 9, p. 31-100) conveys in concise and adequate terms the problem of malaria and the measures adopted to cope with it on a world basis.

The authors commence with a brief outline of the history, distribution and prevalence of malaria and the grave socio-economic problem it poses in endemic areas. The older and newer methods of control are outlined and the action being taken on a national or international basis is indicated. In the concluding section steps towards world-wide elimination of malaria are discussed.

This is an up-to-date account which fairly assesses the problems and difficulties of malaria control and the brilliant success which may result from an adequately planned programme. An impressive list of papers on malaria published by WHO will be of considerable assistance to the reader who wishes to pursue the matter further.

D. McK.

MALARIA CHEMOTHERAPY

Chemotherapy of Malaria. By Sir Gordon Covell, C.I.E., M.D., G. Robert Coatney, Ph.D., John W. Field, C.M.G., M.D. and Jaswant Singh, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. Pp. 123. 17s. 6d. Geneva: World Health Organization. 1955.

Contents: 1. Definition of Terms and Historical Review. 2. The Rationale of Malaria Chemotherapy. 3. Individual Compounds in Common Use. 4. Drug-Resistance in Malaria. 5. The Clinical Use of Antimalarial Drugs. Annexes. Selected Bibliography. Index.

For much of our present knowledge of the chemotherapy of malaria we have to thank the occurrences of the two World Wars—for in the first the Germans were cut off from all sources of quinine and their researches resulted later in the production of pamaquine, mepacrine and chloroquine, and in the second the Allies lost control of the main quinine supplies in Indonesia, resulting in researches in the United States and in Britain which established the usefulness of chloroquine and later gave rise to the production of primaquine, proguanil and recently pyrimethamine.

This volume of the WHO monograph series presents an authoritative account of all aspects of the chemotherapy of malaria, including a detailed assessment of the newer effective antimalarial drugs and a full account of their clinical application. Each drug is considered under the headings of activity, toxicity, contraindications and elimination—and in addition the phase of the life cycle against which the drug is effective is indicated.

The choice of drug and the required dosage for treatment of the various types of infection are recorded for both in-patient and out-patient, as well as for drug prophylaxis of the individual and the community. A warning note is sounded over the recently described development of drug resistance, especially with proguanil.

This monograph, like so many others of the series, is a most excellent and readable volume which should be read by every practitioner in a 'malarious area' and for its intrinsic interest by every practitioner outside.

A.K.

ZOONOSES AND RURAL HEALTH

The Zoonoses in their Relation to Rural Health. By Karl F. Meyer. Pp. 49, with illustrations. \$1.00. California: University of California Press. 1955.

Contents: Introduction. Prevalence of Zoonoses and the Inadequacy of Notification. Major Zoonoses: Anthrax, Brucellosis, Arthropod-borne encephalitis, Hydatidosis, Leptospirosis, Plague, Q Fever, Rabies, Salmonellosis, Trichinosis, Bovine tuberculosis, Tularemia. Zoonoses of Localized Importance: Ectoparasite and fungus infections, Glanders, Leishmaniasis, Psittacosis and ornithoses, Rift Valley fever, Schistosomiasis, Taeniasis, Trypanosomiasis, Jungle yellow fever. Organization of the Control of Zoonoses: National organization, Regional organization, Local unit, Carrying out a control program. Veterinarians and Veterinary Assistants in Rural Public Health Work: Training. Conclusion. References.

This booklet, covering a paper prepared at the request of the World Health Organization, deals with the control of diseases that are transmissible from one animal to another or to man, and discusses ways in which this control can be achieved. This analysis of these widespread public health problems is of particular interest to the sanitarian and veterinarian in the Union of South Africa not only because most of the zoonoses described must be faced in some part or another in our country but also because some of the most important researches in animal diseases were started by Dr. Karl Meyer when in his early days he worked with Sir

Arnold Theiler at Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Station near Pretoria.

This booklet should find a place in all the libraries which have a public health section.

J.P. de V.

YEAR BOOK OF GENERAL SURGERY

The Year Book of General Surgery (1955-1956 Year Book Series). Edited by Everts A. Graham, A.B., M.D., with a Section on Anaesthesia edited by Stuart C. Cullen, M.D. Pp. 655, with 182 illustrations. \$6.00. Chicago: Year Book Publishers, Inc. 1955.

Contents: 1. Introduction. 2. General Considerations. 3. Technical Contributions. 4. Nutrition. 5. Shock, Fluids and Electrolytes. 6. Wounds and Wound Healing. 7. Antibiotics. 8. Neoplasms. 9. Face and Buccal Cavity. 10. The Neck. 11. The Thyroid and Parathyroid. 12. The Breast. 13. The Lungs and Pleura. 14. The Thorax and Mediastinum. 15. The Heart. 16. Hypertension. 17. The Aorta and Peripheral Arteries. 18. Peripheral Veins. 19. Lymphatic System. 20. Abdomen—General. 21. The Liver and Spleen. 22. The Biliary Tract. 23. The Pancreas. 24. The Esophagus. 25. The Stomach and Duodenum. 26. The Small Intestine. 27. The Appendix. 28. The Colon and Rectum. 29. Pilonidal Cysts and Sinuses. 30. Hernia. 31. The Adrenal Glands. 32. The Genitourinary System. 33. The Extremities. *Anaesthesia*. 34. Depressant Drugs. 35. Ventilation. 36. Inhalation Anaesthesia. 37. Muscle Relaxants. 38. Barbiturates. 39. Spinal Anaesthesia. 40. Regional Anaesthesia. 41. Hypothermia. 42. Hypotension. 43. Miscellaneous.

It is a great pleasure to welcome the appearance of the 1955-1956 Year Book of General Surgery.

This volume is a particularly momentous one for the reviewer, since 21 years have elapsed since he became a regular subscriber. During that period, under the able guidance of Dr. Everts Graham, it has consistently carried out its object to put sound, up-to-date abstracts of surgical literature before busy practitioners.

The successive volumes form a splendid record of the history of surgical trends, surgical development, and surgical achievement.

In the Year Books it is noticeable how the experimental work of one year becomes absorbed into commonplace practice in the succeeding few years, and how the enthusiasm is then followed by a period of critical assessment of its value. In this connection, the observations of Dr. Graham himself are of particular importance. At one time he will give a word of encouragement concerning some line of research; at another he will suggest a desirable line of investigation; on yet another occasion he will utter a note of warning lest some intriguing rarity be given an undue measure of attention.

Dr. Stuart Cullen edits a comprehensive section dealing with recent publications on anaesthesia.

While the abstracts contained in the volume as a whole are mostly from American sources, the net has been cast sufficiently widely to embrace some British, Scandinavian and Continental literature. I noticed at least one extract from the pages of the *South African Medical Journal*.

The size and weight of the book, and the clarity of its print and illustrations, make it easy to read and to handle.

Surgeons and those interested in surgery will find it an ideal companion.

R.L.F.

ANTIBIOTISM AND IMMUNITY

Antibiotism and Immunity Medicine of To-morrow. By Alexander Komis, M.D. Pp. 72. 8s. 6d. Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1954.

This monograph of 72 pages by the Director of the Scientific Department of the Institute of Fermented Vaccines in Athens is an attempt to indicate the path that Hellenic medicine advises the world to follow.

The approach to the treatment of disease is to follow the lead of Jenner, Pasteur, Roux and Behring with methods aimed at 'perfect immunity'.

'Concretely medicine has discovered that antitoxins, microbolytins, agglutinins, precipitins etc. are special enzymes produced by the organism and having a corresponding action on the homologous microbes and toxins from which they were provoked. It would not be unreasonable therefore to conclude that the infected organism, which produces the above ferments, affects a kind of fermentation, and in consequence the diseases are nothing else but fermentations . . .'

Present-day antibiotics get rough handling for ' . . . all the imperfections and deficiencies of today's antibiotics are attri-

buted . . . to lack of immunity' and the year 1939 was 'disastrous both to medicine and humanity'.

The thesis then is the production of more and better vaccines, i.e. 'antibiotized vaccines', in which the toxins are 'atotoxicated', 'disintoxicized' or 'detoxicated' by the method of 'alcoholic fermentation' with yeast moulds.

The author anticipated that many readers 'will agree with what is written (in this book) others will possibly disagree'. The reviewer has no alternative but to place himself among the 'others'. A.K.

PAEDIATRICS

Handbook of Pediatrics. By Henry K. Silver, M.D., C. Henry Kempe, M.D. and Henry B. Bruyn, M.D. Pp. 548. \$3.00. California: Lange Medical Publications. 1955.

Contents: 1. Pediatric History and Physical Examination. 2. Pediatric Management. 3. Use of the Laboratory. 4. Pediatric Procedure. 5. Development and Growth. 6. Nutrition and Feeding. 7. Fluids and Electrolytes. 8. Chemotherapy and Antibiotics. 9. Skin Tests, Vaccines, Antisera, and Other Blood Products. 10. The Newborn Infant. 11. The Premature Infant. 12. Emotional Problems in Pediatrics. 13. Adolescence. 14. Disorders of the Skin. 15. Disorders of the Heart. 16. Disorders of the Ear, Nose, and Throat. 17. Diseases of the Respiratory Tract. 18. Disorders of the Gastrointestinal Tract. 19. Disorders of the Blood. 20. Disorders of the Urinary Tract. 21. Disorders of the Eye. 22. Disorders of Bones and Joints. 23. Neuromuscular Disorders. 24. Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders. 25. Neoplastic Diseases. 26. Infectious Diseases. 27. Infections of the Central Nervous System. 28. Allergic Disorders. 29. Collagen Diseases. 30. Pediatric Emergencies. 31. Poisons and Toxins. Indices.

In its size, format and content this remarkable little book is exactly what the title describes. The authors do not claim that this is a text-book of Paediatrics and are well aware that brevity often leads to over-simplification and dogmatism. They have nevertheless achieved with considerable success their aim 'to present to the practising physician and medical student a concise and readily available digest of the material necessary for the diagnosis and management of paediatric disorders'.

Not only is this small volume concise but it is remarkably comprehensive. Especially useful and well handled are the sections on Diagnostic Tests and Paediatric Procedures; Paediatric Emergencies and Management of Poisoning; The New-Born Infant; Development and Growth; Sera Vaccines and Immunization Procedures.

The section on Fluid and Electrolyte Therapy, however, is rather complicated for the type of person who would normally use this volume. Furthermore the section on Feeding and Nutrition which, after all, are fundamental in paediatrics, is as controversial as most dissertations on feeding and is rather less helpful than the other sections of the book—perhaps the only real criticism possible.

For students clerking paediatric cases, for paediatric house physicians and surgeons, and for doctors in their first years in general practice, this book can be wholeheartedly recommended.

R.F.M.

PSYCHIATRY

An Introduction to Psychiatry. By Max Valentine, M.D., D.P.M. Pp. 47 + viii with illustrations. 15s. Edinburgh & London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1955.

Contents: 1. A Historical Perspective. 2. Mind and Body. 3. The Emotions. 4. Etiology. 5. Case-Taking and Symptomatology. 6. Development. 7. Child Psychiatry. 8. Psychiatric Syndromes. 9. Psychoses of Unknown Origin. 10. Psychiatric Disorders of Histogenic and Chemogenic Origin. 11. Electro-Encephalography, Psychopathy and Epilepsy. 12. Treatment in Psychiatry. 13. Clinical Psychology. 14. Mental Deficiency. 15. Forensic Psychiatry. Appendix. Index.

Because of the fact that the library shelves are groaning under a load of numerous standard text-books on psychiatry anyone who writes a new book must ask himself why he should add yet another. Valentine's object is to present psychiatry for the medical reader in such a way that it will be consistent with his training in applied biological science.

Any attempt, like this, to bridge the gulf between psychiatry and the rest of medical science should be welcomed, especially because of the fact that, although there has been a considerable rapprochement between these disciplines on the practical level, theoretically they seem to most people as far as ever apart.

The author's aim has been to steer past the amorphous complexity of his subject-matter by providing a fairly concise background of factual information. The result is a readable little book which will be welcomed by the busy general practitioner.

A.P.B.