

LUNG CAVITIES AND ENDOBRONCHIAL
TUBERCULOSIS

Treatment of Lung Cavities and Endobronchial Tuberculosis, with special reference to treatment in Malaya. By Beryl E. Barsby, M.D., M.R.C.P. Pp. vii + 147. 46 figures. 20s. net + 1s. 3d. postage abroad. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1959.

This is an account of research work into the incidence of endobronchial disease in the mixed population of Malaya, and the influence of tuberculous disease of the bronchial tree on the formation, healing and treatment of cavities. Unfortunately the total number of cases is small and the follow-up period rather short for a satisfactory appraisal of the treatment recommended. The illustrations chosen to augment the text are not well reproduced and in many cases careful search is required to pick up the point made.

J.B.P.

AUTOLYTIC DISEASES IN SURGERY

Autolyse-Krankheiten in der Chirurgie. Klinische und experimentelle Studien zur Pathogenese und Therapie einiger akuter, insbesondere posttraumatischer Krankheitsbilder. Von Priv.-Doz. Dr. L. Koslowski. viii + 160 Seiten. 60 Abbildungen. 15 Tabellen. Kartoniert DM 19.80. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1959.

The whole of this volume is devoted to necrosis, autolysis and heterolysis in the human body. Special attention is given to pancreatitis, its aetiology and lines of approach during acute attacks. Theories of causation such as venous thrombosis, allergic reaction, infection and toxic substances are mentioned and discussed. The author finds it interesting that intravascular injection of bile salts does not precipitate pancreatitis, in contrast to extravascular spilling.

An extensive résumé is given of renal insufficiency following crush syndrome.

Unlike American authors, the author of this work does not seem to lay overmuch emphasis on potassium absorption as a cause of toxicity and death.

The chapters throughout this book are interesting as a thorough review of the latest theories on the process of necrosis. The author specially stresses the consequences following injections of antibiotics and of antitetanic serum.

D.J.H.

OBSTETRIC PROBLEMS

Practical Obstetric Problems. 2nd edition. Dr. Ian Donald, M.B.E., M.D., B.S. (Lond.), B.A. (Cape Town), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.); F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), F.R.C.O.G. Pp. xvi + 712. Illustrations. 55s. net. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1959.

As its title implies, this is not a text-book; it is a work which deals with problems in an interesting, informative and entertaining way. It is not a tabulation of obstetrical facts, but it deals in a practical way with the difficulties met in practice. The opinions and arguments which are so well expressed will find appreciation in the student or practitioner who knows his subject. The general practitioner particularly will find this a valuable book of reference.

A.H.T.

BACTERIOLOGY AND MYCOLOGY

Bacterial and Mycotic Infections of Man. 3rd edition. Edited by René J. Dubos, Ph.D. Pp. xii + 820. 116 illustrations. 63s. net. London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co. Ltd. 1959.

This edition has been almost completely rewritten to include recent discoveries made since the last edition was published in 1952. There are 37 contributors, each expert in the particular field allotted to him. The various organisms and the diseases caused by them are treated in a general manner, to include all the essential features of pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment, without too much unnecessary practical detail, which is preferable for the more general reader.

The mycology section, still written by Conant, has been considerably re-arranged and extended, and the sections on serology, chemotherapy and blood groups have been revised.

This book should prove as useful as the previous editions to students and medical practitioners wishing to keep abreast with the recent developments in these subjects. A grant from the National Foundation enables the printers to offer it at a price reasonable for a book of this calibre. P.D.

OBSTETRIESE EN GINEKOLOGIESE PRAKTYK

British Obstetric and Gynaecological Practice. (Gynaecology.) 2de uitgawe. Geredigeer deur Sir Eardley Holland, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. en Aleck Bourne, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. Pp. xii + 891. Illustrasies. 105s. net. Londen: William Heinemann Mediese Boeke Bpk. 1958.

Die eerste uitgawe van hierdie boek het in 1955 verskyn. 'n Moderne neiging is gevolg en erkende Britse outoriteite is genader om hoofstukke op te stel oor die aspekte van ginekologie waarin hulle uitgeblink het. Die boek het 'n mens dus 'n insae gegee in die denkwysse, kliniese methodes en erkende 'konservatisme' van 'n groep vooraanstaande Britse ginekoloë. Die boek was 'n groot sukses.

Die tweede uitgawe het nie veel wysigings nodig gehad nie. Daar is 'n paar byvoegings, soos byvoorbeeld die nuutste resultate in die behandeling van karsinoom van die serviks en genitale tuberkulose. Die populariteit van hierdie boek as 'n naslaanboek behoort dus voort te leef. J.N.d.V.

VITAL STATISTICS

Elements of Vital Statistics. By B. Benjamin, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.A., F.S.S. Pp. 352. 56s. net. London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd. 1959.

In rewriting Newsholme's *Elements of Vital Statistics* the author's avowed aim that 'the present volume is intended for those not equipped for higher mathematical investigation' has been achieved. Throughout, practical guidance is given on the statistical presentation and interpretation of everyday vital occurrences affecting the individual lives of the community.

Consequently the well-written book is particularly suitable for workers primarily concerned with this side of vital statistics. The very advanced student, though certain to find much of interest, will naturally require supplementary works on vital and general statistical theory. This book should prove a valuable aid to medical officers of health and other public administrators, not only facilitating a true assessment of vital events concerning their community, but also serving as a basis for balanced future planning of the needs of that community.

The chapters on the measurement of morbidity (both generally and as applied to specific diseases and conditions) and the remarks regarding international comparability and statistical standardization are specially noteworthy. E.J.H.F.

PRACTICAL HAEMATOLOGY

Praktische Hämatologie. Von Prof. Dr. H. Begemann und Dr. H.-G. Harwerth. Pp. xii + 264. 25 Abbildungen einschliesslich 2 farbigen Tafeln. 17 Tabellen. DM 29.80. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1959.

Haematology is becoming more and more complicated, and general practitioners and students can no longer cover the whole field in their reading. Begemann and Harwerth have therefore written this manual of haematology which meets the needs of practitioners and students. It deals with diseases of myelo- and erythropoiesis, lesions of lymph nodes, splenomegaly, haemorrhagic diatheses, dysproteinaemia, and therapy of diseases of the blood. In the last chapter haematological methods are described. For every disease the authors give a short description of the symptoms, laboratory findings, prognosis and therapy. That is all viewed from a practical point of view and unnecessary theoretical discussions are omitted. This does not mean incompleteness, but a maximum of facts stated in a very short and clearly written text. In the chapter on therapy Begemann and Harwerth mention American and British drugs as well as German, Swedish and Swiss, thus avoiding the use of only one national pharmacopoeia. Every practitioner, who is not a specialist haematologist, will find valuable information in this manual. H.W.W.

IMPLANTATION OF OVA

Memoirs of the Society for Endocrinology, No. 6. Implantation of Ova. Proceedings of a Conference held at the Ciba Foundation, London, on 27 November 1957. Edited on behalf of the Society by P. Eckstein. Pp. vii + 97. Illustrated. 30s. net. London: Cambridge University Press. 1959.

This is a book very much for the specialist in the experimental physiology of gestation. The reviewer looked in vain for any points remotely connected to clinical practicability. The chapter by Robson on substances which inhibit pregnancy was interesting; colcemid will apparently do so quite satisfactorily in mice; but of the various substances discussed none were applicable to man. The contributors came from Britain, France and Israel and certainly represent the very best in their field. All contributions appear to reach a high standard in a rather rarefied atmosphere. W.P.U.J.

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Orthopaedic Surgery. 5th edition. By Sir Walter Mercer, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), M.Ch.Orth. (Liv.) (Hon.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), F.A.C.S. (Hon.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) (Hon.), F.C.S.So.Af. (Hon.), F.R.C.S.I. (Hon.), F.R.S. (Edin.). Pp. xi + 1075. 422 figures. 90s. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd. 1959.

It is 9 years since the fourth edition of this book, which may now be considered an orthopaedic classic, was written. Although the size has increased but slightly (by 59 pages) the price has almost doubled. In spite of this no teacher of orthopaedic surgery, nor student, can afford to be without it. An extensive revision of the previous edition has been carried out and the book has been brought thoroughly up to date. It is a pity that legends facing figures 295 and 296 have been transposed, but this is a very minor criticism of this *magnum opus*.

The chapter devoted to the discussion and treatment of cerebral palsy has been written by Mr. George Pollock, who recently visited and lectured in South Africa on this very problem. The subject of congenital dislocation of the hip has been dealt with by Mr. G. P. Mitchell, and the recent work of Somerville and others has been incorporated.

All the qualities which have made previous editions of this book one of the medical 'best sellers' are retained, and this edition may be very strongly recommended. A.S.

INTERNATIONAL BILHARZIA

International Work in Bilharziasis, 1948-1958. Pp. 58. 1s. 9d. Also published in French. Geneva: World Health Organization. Local Sales Agent: Van Schaik's Bookstore, Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 724, Pretoria. 1959.

This little booklet is a *sine qua non* for all workers interested in bilharzia. The work sponsored by the World Health Organization on this subject is not adequately appreciated and this publication should indicate something of their activities, which cover a surprising range. In addition, the published figures, maps and pictures will prove very useful to teachers and administrators.

The chapter on 'bilharziasis as a man-made disease' deserves wide publicity in this country, where extending irrigation is likely to increase the parasite load to a dangerous level. The need for further research is apparent from the stress which this publication lays upon the difficulties of mollusc control, sanitation and education.

This book can be heartily recommended.

R.E.D.

SKIN AND VENEREAL DISEASES

Lehrbuch der Haut- und Geschlechtskrankheiten. 8., neubearbeitete Auflage. Von Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. W. Schönfeld. XVI + 546 Seiten. 339 Abbildungen. Ganzleinen DM 49.50. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1959.

On the eve of his retirement from his official academic position at the University of Heidelberg, Professor Schönfeld, as he explains in the foreword, has deemed it desirable to issue a revised 1959 edition of his popular text-book on skin and venereal diseases. The book first appeared in 1938 and the 1957 edition was reviewed in this *Journal* (31, 322).

Two new chapters have been added to the latest edition, one on haemorrhoids and one on the so-called 'new disease'. New photographs have been added and some of the old ones omitted.

One feels that these minor changes were more a labour of love than a necessary improvement to a work that on account of its completeness, conciseness and authority, and the excellence of its illustrations, has established itself as a standard work for the study of these diseases by German-speaking students and practitioners.

One alteration, a very minor one, is perhaps a sign of the times. The Anglo-American term 'sarcoidosis' has now replaced the name 'morbus Boeck' both in the text and in the index. Many readers, though, may object to its inclusion with granuloma annulare in that part of the book dealing with the tuberculides.

Conservatism is, however, abundantly evident in the section on venereal diseases, where we can still read about mercury inunctions as one of the means of treating syphilis. Penicillin, to be sure, is given pride of place but the fact that it is frequently combined with injections of bismuth preparations shows that the author does not rely on it entirely to achieve fundamental cure in all cases of syphilis. The tests of cure for gonorrhoea, including the deliberate mechanical and chemical irritation of the urethra, also read strangely today. To some of us it all sounds like an attempted resuscitation of the dodo. C.K.O'M.

IRON METABOLISM

Eisenstoffwechsel. Beiträge zur Forschung und Klinik. Bearbeitet von zahlreichen Fachgelehrten. Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. W. Keiderling. XIV + 298 Seiten. 138 zum Teil mehrfarbige Abbildungen. Ganzleinen DM 48.00. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1959.

The rapid advance during the past 25 years in our knowledge of iron metabolism is reflected in this book. Well written articles by distinguished German, French and American authorities, to name only a few, provide a useful source of information about the biochemical and physiological facts of iron metabolism, together with some aspects of research techniques recently employed. A chapter on the study of iron metabolism under a variety of clinical-pathological conditions is of particular interest, the latter being made possible by new quantitative iron estimations. In this field emphasis has been laid on the contributions by Prof. L. Heilmeyer, to whom the book is dedicated. Each article is supported by well-chosen references, elucidating diagrams, charts and tables. For all those interested in the subject it is certainly a book worth possessing. J.G.S.

JAARBOEK VAN OBSTETRIE EN GINEKOLOGIE

The Year Book of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 1958-59. Geredigeer deur J. P. Greenhill, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S. Pp. 607. 50 afbeeldings. \$7.50. Chicago: Year Book Publishers, Inc. 1958.

Die 1958-59 Jaarboek van Obstetrie en Ginekologie handhaaf weereens 'n hoë standaard. Dit is 'n baie praktiese boekie met opsommings van die belangrikste publikasies in obstetrie en ginekologie oor die afgelope jaar. Greenhill, die redakteur, skryf dikwels 'n klein resensie wanneer kontensieuse onderwerpe aan die beurt kom. Sodoende word teenoorgestelde menings gestel en die leser moet tot sy eie gevolgtrekking kom.

Hierdie boek word baie sterk aanbeveel vir verloskundiges en ginekoloë, asook vir algemene praktisyns wat in hierdie rigting geïnteresseerd is. J.N.d.V.

HARTKLANKE

Cardiovascular Sound in Health and Disease. 'n Omvattende verhandeling, ingelei deur 'n historiese oorsig hoofsaaklik geïllustreer deur klank spektrogramme en aangevul deur 'n uitgebreide bibliografie met 'n afdeling oor asemhalingsklanke deur Victor A. McKusick, M.D. Pp. xii + 570. 494 afbeeldings. 120s. Londen: Baillière, Tindall en Cox Bpk. 1958.

Dit is merkwaardig dat daar op 'n tydstrip wanneer spesiale ondersoeke en tegnieke, byvoorbeeld elektrokardiografie, hartkaterisaties, kardio-angiografie, ens., so baie aandag geniet, 'n boek van hierdie formaat oor hartklanke verskyn. Dit beklemtoon die belangrikheid van beluistering, asook die feit dat tegnieke soos fonokardiografie daartoe gehelp het om beluistering meer akkuraat en verstaanbaar te maak.

McKusick behandel die onderwerp van kardiavasculêre klanke tot in die fynste besonderhede. Alle aspekte vanaf die geskiedenis in verband met die tegniek en verklarings vir bevindings word gedek. Daar word veral moeite gedoen om, waar moontlik, verklarings te gee vir wat gehoor word. Die teks is ook goed geïllustreer deur middel van spektrum-fonokardiografie.

Die boek is goed geskryf en aangenaam om te lees. Die leser kry die indruk dat dit geskryf is deur een wat sy vak verstaan en geniet. Die verwysings is ook baie uitgebreid.

Ek is seker dat die boek in die toekoms as 'n standaard naslaanwerk oor die onderwerp beskou sal word.

M.A.d.K.