

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS : BOEKRESENSIES

### MODERN TRENDS IN ORTHOPAEDICS

*Modern Trends in Orthopaedics.* Second Series. By Sir Harry Platt, LL.D., M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S. Pp. 331, with illustrations. 73s. post free. London: Butterworth & Co. (Publishers) Ltd. South African Office: Butterworth & Co. (Africa) Ltd., Durban. 1956.

*Contents:* Contents of First Series. Introduction. Chapter 1. Reconstructive Surgery of the Hip Joint. 2. Peripheral Nerve Injuries. 3. The Role of Antibiotics in Treatment of Tuberculous Diseases of Bones and Joints. 4. Congenital Dislocation of the Hip. 5. Muscle and Tendon Transposition in Poliomyelitis. 6. Internal Derangements of Knee Joint and Allied Conditions. 7. Traumatic Paraplegia. 8. Pott's Paraplegia. 9. Displacement of the Upper Epiphysis of Femur. 10. Contractures of the Hand. 11. Fractures of the Neck of the Femur. Index.

This 'second series' is the product of an advancing science. It is gratifying to find that orthopaedics has made such strides as to warrant the periodic publication of its recent advances. The work is concise and condensed and, by its excellent choice of authors, is representative of the present outlook of British schools of orthopaedic surgery.

This book is obviously written by experts for the expert. Each subject is one uppermost in present development of this field of surgery, and the addition of personal and critical authors' viewpoints adds immensely to the value of the work. The choice of subjects has been pertinently made, touching on the day-to-day problems of the practising and teaching orthopaedist.

One of the most contentious problems in the field of orthopaedic surgery is the present-day use on an ever-increasing scale of foreign materials such as Vitallium and acrylic plastics. Many writers today strongly recommend the use of these. There remains, however, the viewpoint that in spite of their tissue-neutrality, such materials cannot be introduced into the human body easily, without complication or frequent failure. Therefore, difficulty is experienced by most surgeons in deciding whether to remain conservative and avoid the use of these materials or to follow the modern convention and give up not wholly successful older-fashioned operations in preference to these newer ideas. This applies especially to operations for hip pathology.

An extremely interesting lead is given in this matter by Norman Capener in the opening chapter, and although all the modern techniques are described by him, one detects a note of caution and conservatism throughout. Capener suggests that future advancement will be by the perfection of biomechanical synthesis, and not merely by implantation of mechanical devices.

The other chapters are equally well written and skilfully edited. The series is indispensable to orthopaedic surgeons and advanced orthopaedic students.

C.E.L.A.

### YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

*Yellow Fever Vaccination.* By Smithburn *et al.*, Geneva 1956. (World Health Organization: Monograph Series No. 30), 238 pages, 37 figures, select bibliography, index. Price £1 5s. \$5.00, or Sw. fr. 15. French edition in preparation.

*Contents:* Introduction. Immunology. Immunology of yellow fever—Kenneth C. Smithburn. Dakar Vaccine. Preparation of yellow fever vaccine at the Institut Pasteur, Dakar—C. Durieux. Vaccination technique with yellow fever vaccine of the Institut Pasteur, Dakar—C. Durieux. Post-vaccination immunity with yellow fever vaccine of the Institut Pasteur, Dakar—C. Durieux & R. Koerber. 17D Vaccine. Production of 17D yellow fever vaccine—H. A. Penna. Administration of 17D yellow fever vaccine, with special reference to Brazil—H. A. Penna. Vaccination by scarification with 17D chick-embryo vaccine—G. W. A. Dick. Time of appearance and duration of immunity conferred by 17D vaccine—G. Courtois. Mass Vaccination. Mass yellow fever vaccination in French Africa south of the Sahara—C. Durieux. Mass vaccination against yellow fever in Brazil, 1937-1954—Caio de Souza Manso. Post Vaccination Reactions. Reactions

following vaccination against yellow fever—George Stuart. International regulation. International regulation of yellow fever vaccination—P. H. Bonnel. Bibliography. Select bibliography on yellow fever vaccination. Index.

As indicated in the introduction to this monograph, yellow fever vaccination was first applied in French West Africa in 1934 (Dakar vaccine) and then in Brazil in 1937, since when many millions of persons have been successfully vaccinated and yellow fever as a dreaded disease has to a great extent lost its sting.

The chapters of this monograph have been compiled by many of those distinguished persons who individually played so conspicuous a part in the elucidation and development of a satisfactory vaccine, which has been such a boon to those resident in or traversing yellow-fever areas.

The development and manufacture of the various types of vaccine are fully set out. It is interesting to note that the Dakar vaccine, administered by skin scarification, and frequently combined with smallpox vaccine, has found much favour in the French African possessions, where many millions of the indigenous population have, at low cost and with great speed, been satisfactorily immunized against yellow fever. This form of yellow-fever vaccine has, however, not met with the same degree of acclaim outside the French possessions and has to all intents and purposes been superseded by the 17D vaccine.

The relative merits and demerits of each type of vaccine, including the post-vaccinal reactions that can be expected from the use of each, have been succinctly set out by the authors.

The final pages of this most interesting and instructive monograph provide not only a select and full bibliography on yellow-fever vaccination, but also a most useful index for ready and rapid consultation.

E.D.C.

### HUTCHINSON'S DIETETICS

*Hutchinson's Food and The Principles of Dietetics.* Revised by V. H. Mottram, M.A. and George Graham, M.D., F.R.C.P. Eleventh Edition. Pp. xviii + 630. 40s. net. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd. 1956.

*Contents:* The History of Dietetics. Part One. Diet in Normal Life. I. Introductory. Definitions, Difficulties, Limits of Error and Action in Dietetics. II. The Functions of Food. (i) Supply of Energy. III. The Functions of Food (continued). (ii) Supply of Body-building Material. IV. The Functions of Food (continued). (iii) The Supply of Elements other than Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen and Nitrogen. V. The Functions of Food (continued). (iv) The Supply of Vitamins. VI. Practical Aspects of Knowledge of Calories, Proteins, Mineral Elements and Vitamins. VII. The Processing and Storage of Foods. VIII. The Cooking of Foods. IX. Hygiene of Food. X. The Digestion, Absorption and Metabolism of Foods in Health. XI. Normal Dietetics. Part Two. The nature of Foods. XII. Foods Taken Mainly for Energy Purposes. XIII. Foods Taken Chiefly for Protein. XIV. Foods Taken Chiefly for Protein (continued). XV. Foods Taken for Mineral Elements and for Vitamins A, and C. (Ascorbic Acid). XVI. Foods taken Mainly for Flavour, Condiments, XVII. Beverages, XVIII. Principles of Feeding in Infancy. XIX. Principles of Feeding in Infancy (continued). XX. Principles of Feeding in Infancy (continued). Transitional Feeding. Some Proprietary Foods. XXI. The Principles of Feeding in Disease. XXII. The Principles of Feeding in Disease (continued). XXIII. Some Dietetic 'Cures' and 'Systems'. XXIV. Artificial Feeding and Artificial and Predigested Foods. Index.

This book is a remarkable tribute to Sir Robert Hutchison, whose portrait appears as its frontispiece. The book was first published in 1900 and the present 11th edition appears in 1956, when Sir Robert is still vigorous. The present editors, Dr. V. H. Mottram and Dr. George Graham pay a fitting tribute to that great man in their introduction.

The book is what its title indicates. It is primarily a book on food and the application of the principles of human dietetics. As such it is a mine of valuable information. There are not many questions one might want to ask about the nature of a foodstuff



and its constituents and physiological effects which are not answered and catalogued in the index. It is remarkably well up to date, although some of the recent information on essential fatty acids, amino acids and food additives will have to appear in the next edition. Its style is direct, pleasing and unambiguous. It is certainly a reference work of the greatest value to every practitioner who has to advise patients about their diets and to every medical student.

J.F.B.

## CLINICAL MEDICINE

*The Clinical Approach in Medical Practice.* By G. E. Beaumont, M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P., D.P.H. Pp. 469, with 74 illustrations. 45s. net. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1956.

*Contents:* Part I. Descriptive Cases. How I Entered Basingstoke on a Milk Tanker. Pain in the Hip. Hepatic Lobectomy. A Solved Problem. The Missing Abdominal Reflex. 'Ulcerative Colitis'. The Young Athlete. Arthritis? An Early Country Case. Ovarian Asthma. A Fatal Error. The Tangled Skein. Bile Peritonitis. The Consultants' Dilemma. Sarcoidosis. Intermittent Jaundice. The Aching Side. Recurrent Attacks of Vomiting. My Inglorious Hour. Whose Was the Mistake? Pleural Effusion. The Catherine Wheel Headache. The Throbbing Trunk. Constitutional Jaundice. The Foster Kennedy Syndrome. Goitrogenous Asthma. The Premenstrual Tension Syndrome. Pyaemia. A Diagnosis in the Making. 'Arthritis' of Hip. Ileal Stasis. Wanted—A Diagnosis. Angina and Anaemia. Steatorrhoea. Polycystic Disease of Liver and Kidneys. Ten Minutes Too Late. Idle Thoughts. Part II. The Trials of the Tuberculous Resuscitation in Congestive Heart Failure. Idle Thoughts. Part III. Cases Demonstrated at the Bedside By Question and Answer. A Case of Oedema, Vertigo and Blindness. A Case of Renal Colic and Haematuria. A Case of Vomiting. A Case of Jaundice. A Case of Gluteal Haemorrhage. A Case of Hoarseness. A Case of Wasting and Weakness. A Case of Lumbar Pain. A Case of Cerebral Failure. A Case of blood in the Urine. A Case of Recurrent Abdominal Pain. A Case of Dyspnoea. A Case of Girdle Pains. A Case of Headache. A Case of Pains in the Head, Legs and Back. A Case of Pigmentation in the Skin. Idle Thoughts.

This is a companion volume to 'Applied Medicine' and is written in the same way in a series of descriptive cases and cases demonstrated at the bedside by question and answer. It varies from the former work, however, in the fact that the second part follows a new line being devoted to the consideration of two subjects—'The Trials of the Tuberculous' and 'Resuscitation in Congestive Heart Failure'.

Dr. Beaumont's cases make good reading and his particularly easy style adds greatly to the enjoyment of his book.

The aphorisms in his 'Idle Thoughts' at the end of each part are both apt and useful. Those who read the author's 'Applied Medicine' will enjoy its companion and those who read his present book will want to go back to enjoy the earlier work.

A.H.T.

## ECZEMA IN CHILDREN

*The Treatment of Eczema in Infants and Children.* By Lewis Webb Hill, M.D. Pp. 79 + 39 illustrations. £1 14s. 0d. St. Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. 1956.

*Contents:* 1. General Principles of Treatment. 2. Seborrhic Dermatitis. Leiner's Disease. Fungus Infections. 3. Secondary Infection. Infectious Eczematoid Dermatitis. Nimmular Eczema. Circumscribed Neurodermatitis. Contact Dermatitis. 4. Atopic Dermatitis. 5. Atopic Dermatitis (continued).

Dr. Hill, formerly director of the Eczema and Allergy Clinic at the Children's Medical Centre in Boston and lecturer in paediatrics at Harvard University, is amply qualified by his many years of personal experience to write on the treatment of eczema in children.

This book is primarily intended for paediatricians, having appeared in the latter half of 1955 as a series of articles in the *Journal of Pediatrics*. Dr. Hill writes in an easy, straightforward, almost conversational style, and presents his views and lines of treatment without any of that vagueness and doubt so often found in text-books.

The author discusses fully the values of drugs commonly used and naturally devotes much space to the use and abuse of the steroids. Most dermatologists will agree that hydrocortisone ointment does not do well where there is no active inflammation and a good deal of thickening—for such cases tar preparations are preferable. Oral cortisone must be avoided except for certain well-defined cases. In cases of ammonia contact-dermatitis due to napkins, mercuric chloride is preferable to all the modern fancy antiseptics; Dr. Hill says he has used it for 34 years without a single case of acrodynia.

Dr. Hill confesses that he often sends his cases to a dermato-

logist, usually with happy results, therein portraying a wisdom not always evident in less experienced paediatricians.

This small book is confidently recommended to all practitioners, whether specialists or not. They will find much of practical help to solve their problems in dealing with a difficult group of conditions.

J.J.J.

## TEXT-BOOK OF MIDWIFERY

*A Text Book of Midwifery.* Sixteenth Edition. By R. W. Johnston and R. J. Kellar. (Pp. xvi + 582, with 295 illustrations.) 35s. net (S.A. Price 36s.). London: A. & C. Black. 1955.

*Contents:* Section I. Anatomy and Physiology. Section II. Physiology of Pregnancy. Section III. Labour in the Various Presentations. Section IV. Physiology of the Puerperium. Section V. Pathology of Pregnancy. Section VI. Physiology of Labour. Section VII. Pathology of the Puerperium. Section VIII. The newborn Child. Section IX. Operative Obstetrics. Section X. Radiography in Obstetrical Diagnosis.

This text-book of midwifery covers the subject most comprehensively. Written in a clear and concise manner and well illustrated by diagrams and X-ray photographs, this book should be of inestimable value to the student and an excellent guide to the practitioner. If proof be needed of its popularity, it is to be found in the fact that no less than 5 new additions have been produced in the past 10 years.

Practical and useful advice is given in the section on antenatal supervision. The authors give a simplified and easily readable account of the embryological development of the placenta as well as recent views on placental anatomy.

In training students the term contractions or cramps should be used in preference to 'labour pains', which is unfortunately used frequently in the text. Lovset's manoeuvre, which has proved a useful method of dealing with extended arms in a breech presentation, is not mentioned in the management of this complication.

A curious feature recorded by the authors is that some observers have shown that two or three days before labour commences there is a loss of weight, which is so definite that it can be taken as an indication that labour is imminent. It would be interesting to follow up this observation.

An interesting point the authors make is that vaccination is not contra-indicated in pregnancy but is contra-indicated in the puerperium.

The distressing condition of incoordinate uterine action is clearly presented and practical advice given on its management. In dealing with concealed accidental haemorrhage no mention is made of the complication of afibrinogenemia which requires the earliest detection and speedy correction if disaster is to be avoided.

The chapter on Breast and Artificial Feeding is presented by Professor R. W. B. Ellis and contains useful and up-to-date information on the subject.

This book as a whole is well produced and, like its predecessors, will be welcomed by all interested in the subject of Obstetrics.

S.B.C.

## SYMPOSIUM ON HYPERTENSION

*Ciba Foundation Symposium on Hypertension: Humoral and Neurogenic Factors.* Edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., B.Ch. and Margaret P. Cameron, M.A., A.B.L.S. (Pp. 294 + xiv, with 73 illustrations. 30s.) London: J. & A. Churchill Limited. 1954.

*Contents:* 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks. 2. Neural and Humoral Control of Blood Vessels. 3. Some New Aspects of Reflex Blood Pressure Regulation and Hypertension. 4. Hypertensive Disease without Hypertension. 5. Internal Secretion of the Arterial Wall in Blood Pressure Regulation. 6. Drugs Antagonistic to 5-hydroxytryptamine. 7. Quantitative Estimation of 5-hydroxytryptamine in Gastro-Intestinal Mucosa, Spleen and Blood of Vertebrates. 8. Chemical Screening Methods for the Diagnosis of Pheochromocytoma. 9. Persistence of Hypertension after Removal of Pheochromocytoma, where Excretion of Adrenaline and Noradrenaline is Normal. 10. Experimental Studies on the Pathogenesis and Nature of Hypertensive Cardiovascular Disease. 11. Experiments on the Role of Vasoconstrictor Substances in the Mechanism of Renal Hypertension in Dogs. 12. The Relation of the Sustained Pressor Principle to Renin. 13. The Role of the Kidney in the Mechanism of Experimental Hypertension. 14. The Effect of Partial Renal Corticectomy on the Kidneys of Normal and Hypertensive Animals. 15. The Use of Ganglion Blocking Agents in Relation to Neurogenic Factors in Hypertension. 16. Lessons from Hexamethonium



Studies in Malignant Hypertension. 17. Catechol Amine Excretion in Urine in Cases of Hypertension. 18. The Relationship between Sodium, Arterial Hypertension and the Adrenal Glands. 19. The Study of Adrenal Insufficiency in Hypertensive Patients Submitted to Bilateral Sympathectomy and Unilateral Adrenalectomy. 20. Water and Electrolytes in Experimental Hypertension. 21. The Distribution of Fluid and Electrolytes in Experimental Hypertension. 22. The Importance of Sodium Chloride and its Ions in the Production and Treatment of Hypertension. 23. Chairman's Closing Remarks. Index.

There is an enormous literature on the important subject of hypertension. The aetiology, the epidemiology (on which more work needs to be done), the effects on the cardiovascular system, and other aspects of hypertensive vascular disease, have been considered by many investigators, but the problem is still unsolved. The complicated nature of the subject is revealed in this book. Varied opinions are expressed, on the basis of intensive experimental work, by the many contributors to the symposium. Perara and others suggest that hypertensive vascular disease should be considered a metabolic disorder in which hypertension may or may not be a prominent feature. Braun-Menedez and others

consider an extrarenal factor to be responsible for maintaining the raised blood-pressure. These workers, and Ledingham, discuss the retention of sodium and water in the genesis of experimental hypertension and cardiovascular lesions, and the factors accelerating or preventing their development. Urinary steroids are discussed by Genest, who has studied the urinary excretion of aldosterone since the publication of this book and concludes that hypertension could be caused by a state of mild and chronic hyperaldosteronism. The VEM mechanism propounded by Shorr is severely criticised by Page. The effect of denervation measures is discussed by Etienne-Martin. These are only a few of the many interesting items presented in this book. In spite of much work on animals little is known about experimentally-induced hypertension and even less is known about the condition in man. The field is wide open for research. Those engaged in this problem need to have this book, which reveals the investigations being pursued by many workers in different parts of the world.

N.S.