

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

BONE TUMOURS

Bone Tumors. 2nd edition. By L. Lichtenstein, M.D. Pp. 402. 220 illustrations. South African price: 63s. 9d. St. Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. 1959.

Firstly, it must be acknowledged that the first edition of this book has established a position few other books in this field enjoy. To the clinician, radiologist and pathologist alike, as a reference book on bone tumours it is of great value. Much of its appeal lies in the author's concise and practical approach, obviously based on considerable experience, to a subject still in many ways controversial, and he has succeeded by adhering to the simplest classifications and not indulging in the all too common practice of 'splitting'.

In the present edition the original format is preserved but there are many additions to enhance the value of the book. There are a number of additional illustrations (65) and pages (87), and several new chapters, including an introductory chapter to clinicians and pathologists, a chapter on tumours of periosteal origin,

and discussions on tumours of synovial joints, bursae and tendon sheaths. The discussion on non-neoplastic lesions of bone which may be mistaken for tumours has been amplified. At the end of each chapter the references have been brought up to date.

The author's remarks on the value, if not the absolute necessity, of adequate clinical and radiological data in the histological diagnosis of bone tumours, should be underlined; the pathologist is still too often expected to commit himself in the absence of this information. Undesirable as this practice may be in histological diagnosis in general, it is to be deprecated all the more in the difficult subject of bone tumours. It is of interest to note that the author still recognizes Ewing's sarcoma as a histological entity, but with the admission that much has still to be learned about its pathogenesis. His restriction of the term osteogenic sarcoma to a neoplasm derived from bone-forming mesenchyme and capable of forming osteoid is to be preferred to a definition that embraces chondrosarcoma and fibrosarcoma as well; this restriction will leave no doubt about the seriousness of the prognosis.

C.J.U.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Progress in Clinical Psychology. Volume III. Edited by Daniel Brower, Ph.D. and Lawrence E. Abt, Ph.D. Pp. vi + 249. \$7.75. New York and London: Grune & Stratton, Inc. 1958.

This volume is a summary of progress in the various spheres of clinical psychology. Facilities for training clinical psychologists are under consideration at present in South Africa—an advance long overdue, for no psychiatric team can be considered complete without trained clinical psychologists.

Many clinical psychologists would consider their function confined to the application to patients of tests of intelligence and aptitude; the validity of tests of personality (projective tests such as the Rorschach) is more controversial. A major part of this book deals with psychodiagnostic tests, their rationale, methodology and application. A considerable part of the book is devoted to research into psychotherapy (in the USA much of the scientifically-controlled investigation into this form of psychiatric treatment is being undertaken by clinical psychologists). While medical men may have objections to the participation of laymen in the actual treatment of psychiatric patients, this book makes clear how much promising and provocative research into psychological treatment is being done at present by clinical psychologists.

The present review of progress will be of much interest to medical readers, although sometimes current trends are evaluated by standards which are insufficiently critical. The chapter on newer approaches in psychotherapy (as devised by Rotter, Kelly and Phillips), which differ from the psycho-analytical depth approach in emphasizing social problem-solving, and in being a-historical, describes stimulating new approaches. There are excellent chapters on group psychotherapy and rehabilitation therapy. H.W.

ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAPHY, CLINICAL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY AND EPILEPSY

Proceedings of the First International Congress of Neurological Sciences, Brussels. Vol. III. Electroencephalography, Clinical Neurophysiology and Epilepsy. Edited by L. van Bogaert and J. Radermecker. Pp. 707. Illustrations. 140s. London, New York, Paris, Los Angeles: Pergamon Press. 1959.

Electro-encephalography has a vital place in neurophysiology; without it much important recent work would have been impossible and it is full of promise of further advances in the near future. In clinical neurology, also, it has become an essential tool which gives great, and sometimes essential, assistance in the elucidation of bedside problems; no worth-while department can exist without its help. Electro-encephalography, clinical neurophysiology, and epilepsy, comprised one of the four important sections of the First International Congress of Neurological Sciences held in Brussels in 1957, and this book is a report of the proceedings of this section. As such it will be of great interest to the neurophysiologist, neurologist and electro-encephalographer despite the expected differences in standards of more than 130 papers. Unfortunately, unless one also possesses the small volume of proceedings available at the time of Congress, the book is not a complete record. It is a great pity that the *Excerpta Medica* preliminary publication was not included; it could well have been considering what one is asked to pay for this volume. S.B.

MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE WAR: VOL. III

The Army Medical Services. Campaigns. Volume III. Sicily, Italy and Greece (1944-45). By F. A. E. Crew, F.R.S. Pp. xxviii + 645. 136 figures. 100s. net. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 1959.

This volume carries the medical history of the Second World War from the conquest of North Africa through the whole of the Italian Campaign and so has a very special interest for all South African readers.

The form in which the narrative is compiled is such that the reader's interest is held throughout. In each phase, strategic considerations are given fully. This is followed by a description of the terrain over which the battle was to be fought. An assessment of the Medical Intelligence is made, then the tactical plan is

provided. Since the climate, the enormous natural strength of the enemy position, and the prevalence of endemic disease, presented formidable obstacles in the battle area, with its built-up and crowded civilian conditions, this is given in a detailed manner.

As the campaign proceeds, the operation of medical units in action, together with the problems which were encountered *en route*, is unfolded. I enjoyed the critical appraisal of all medical arrangements which is given at the end of each chapter. The account of the organization and the scope of the work of the blood-transfusion unit, too, is worthy of the closest attention.

The descriptions of the principal diseases from which the troops suffered—malaria, hepatitis, VD—and the account of the typhus epidemic in the civilian population of Naples, will delight the clinical reader.

Finally, the summary of the lessons learnt in the Italian Campaign, from a medical point of view, is of the greatest importance to the professional soldier.

The book has countless excellent maps and photographs and like its predecessors, this volume reflects great credit on the editor and his collaborators. R.L.F.

X-RAY INTERPRETATION

The Essentials of Roentgen Interpretation. By Lester W. Paul, M.D. and John H. Juhl, M.D. Pp. xvii + 839. 1,203 illustrations. \$25.00. New York: Paul B. Hoeber, Inc. 1959.

Most medical students, in the course of their travels from 1st M.B. to qualification, use, study and sometimes even buy, quite a large selection of quite large text-books. They range in subject matter from physics to physick, but do not in my experience ever include a book on diagnostic radiology.

During the course of medical studentship and in the subsequent qualified life, there is one really prominent, highly reliable, ever present, ubiquitous yet selective diagnostic aid available to us. On this subject general practitioners are largely ignorant. A few specialists have a passing knowledge of it, where it impinges upon the narrow confines of their speciality. Almost none of them, student, practitioner or consultant, has ever owned or read a text-book of diagnostic radiology. This is not entirely their fault, for the type of books available have not always lent themselves to general use.

This defect has at last been well and truly rectified by this publication. Beginning with a simple and short résumé of the physics of X-radiation, it proceeds succinctly and clearly through the whole gamut of diagnostic radiology. Nothing of importance is omitted; some of it is in small print but all of it is lucidly set forth. The illustrations are copious and clear and all are in negative form. This last is most important; an illustrative X-ray picture should be the same as the original, viz. a negative; the way in fact, in which the doctor will meet it at the bedside. The paper and printing are of the highest quality, and the type, being set out in two columns per page, breaks even the heaviest chunks up into digestible portions. The illustrations are right alongside the relevant text, not 2 or 3 pages fore or aft of the reading point.

This is a book which should be read by all medical students and kept for later reference; it is a 'must'—a basic essential—for all radiology students, and will be a source of great and surprising interest to all general specialists.

It has only one snag—unfortunately quite a large one—25 dollars. W.J.L.

PAINLESS CHILDBIRTH

Childbirth without Pain. By Pierre Vellay *et al.* Pp. 216. Illustrations. 35s. net. London: Hutchinson of London with George Allen & Unwin. 1959.

In this book a group of French doctors have set out to explain how childbirth can take place without pain through the 'psycho-prophylactic' method. It is written primarily for the pregnant mother (and her husband). The method was developed by the late Dr. Fernand Lamaze.

Fairly detailed instruction is given in the physiology of pregnancy and the process of labour. The neuromuscular control of uterine action is described, together with the correct part to be played by the control of respiration. Many actual case histories are given and the book includes several serial photographs of the final stages of labour.

I feel that the average pregnant woman will find this book rather difficult reading and in places too detailed. She will also find the instructions rather difficult to carry out. E.M.S.

THE MENOPAUSE

Medical Management of the Menopause. By M. B. Goldberg, M.D. Pp. viii + 98. Illustrations. \$4.50. New York and London: Grune & Stratton, Inc. 1959.

This book is one of the series of publications 'Modern Medical Monographs' edited by Wright and Orr. In spite of its title, almost half of the book is devoted to the physiology, symptomatology and diagnosis of the menopausal syndrome. This, however, enhances its value. In the course of preparing the monograph the author made a detailed review of 100 of her own patients, and presents statistics derived from this group.

The physiology of the menopause is not dealt with in detail, but the chapters on the symptomatology and diagnosis are; and the descriptions of the symptoms are made more interesting by the inclusion of diagrams drawn in cartoon fashion. The section on the diagnosis of a premature menopause, a difficult diagnostic problem, is particularly good. The management of the menopause, both normal and abnormal, is dealt with in some detail.

Although a bibliography is appended, the author obviously did not intend to present an extensive review of the literature nor did she mean this to be a reference work on the subject. This small book presents the views and personal experience of one who has had an extensive experience of dealing with menopausal patients. Most of her views are balanced and modern and there are only a few statements that would not be acceptable to all. Practitioners who have to deal with patients going through the climacteric will find this a useful and practical book, written in a style which makes light and easy reading. F.B.

COMPLICATIONS OF LEGAL ABORTION

Somatic Complications following Legal Abortion. By Jan Lindahl, translated by S. H. Vernon. Pp. 182. 42s. net. London: William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1959.

As is expected of any publication from the clinic of Prof. Axel Westman, this book is of a high standard. An accurate and painstaking review of 1,188 operations done for legal abortion according to Swedish law is presented. 1,132 patients have been re-examined after 3 weeks (by 30-40 different gynaecologists) and 1,013 cases have been followed up for 5 years. The commonest method used was vaginal hysterotomy, which was done in 983 cases. The only complication of any importance was the appearance of endometriosis in 19.8% of cases after vaginal hysterotomy. Vaginal hysterotomy is generally regarded as a vaginal Caesarean section. Its gynaecological application is rare, it being only occasionally used for the removal of large polyps of the body of the uterus and of submucous myomas. A certain amount of damage and distortion of the cervical canal is unavoidable. The indications for legal abortion vary widely from the recognized indications. The author groups the indications as follows: Mental disease 303 cases, somatic disease 84 cases, weakness 615 cases, foreseen weakness 157 cases, eugenic indications 27 cases, humanitarian indication 2 cases; total 1,188 cases. The last 4 indications are difficult to understand. W.W.

ANESTESIOLOGIE

A Synopsis of Anaesthesia. 4de uitgawe. Deur J. Alfred Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A. Pp. vi + 616. 72 illustrasies. 27s. 6d. + 1s. 3d. posgeld. Bristol: John Wright on Seuns Bpk. 1959.

Hierdie alombekende werk het geen bekendstelling nodig nie. Die inhoud van die derde uitgawe is tot in sy fynste besonderheid hersien in die lig van die jongste ontwikkelings in die anesthesiologie. Aanvullende informasie verskyn in haas alle onderafdelings van die vak, o.a. halotaan, fluoromar, die nuwe barbiturate en steroïdes, analeptiese middels, die fenotiasien-groep van middels, spierverslappers, narkosetegniek vir torakschirurgie, en voorbedagte hipotensie en hipotermie.

Soos in die verlede sal die algemene praktisyn en die nagraadse narkosestudent op die vooraand van 'n eksamen veel baat by hierdie werk vind. Die resensent wonder tog net waar dit alles gaan eindig. Moet ons verwag dat hierdie fyngedrukte 'worsmasjien' van beknopte informasie eersdaags, streng ensiklopedies, as 'n reeks bundels per uitgawe gaan verskyn? J.A.P.

SURGICAL PHYSIOLOGY

A Text-book of Surgical Physiology. By R. Ainslie Jamieson, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed. and Andrew W. Kay, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.Ed., F.R.F.P.S.G. Pp. vii + 623. 186 figures. 55s. net + 3s. 2d. postage abroad. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1959.

A limited number of books dealing with surgical physiology have appeared in recent years, but there is still a great need for one that will cover the subject clearly, concisely and fully. This book attempts to do so, and it is one that I can recommend for the practising surgeon who wants to refresh his knowledge, and for the postgraduate student in surgery.

It is evident that this text-book has been written by practising surgeons, and it is more a short text-book of surgery with a background of applied physiology than a book on physiology. Surgeons specially interested in physiology will find the book disappointing, and it does not quite meet the needs of the postgraduate student in surgery who is studying physiology for his primary examination. But for his final examinations in surgery he should study this book, which will refresh his physiological knowledge and give him all the applied physiology he needs.

The whole field of surgery is covered concisely. Unfortunately, important aspects are sometimes covered in too short a space—for example, the effects of atomic bombs and the heart-lung machines.

The book reads easily and is up to date; for example, primary aldosteronism and auto-antibodies in Hashimoto's disease are discussed. The illustrations are practical and well chosen. At the end of each chapter classical and important references are given. B.J.v.R.D.

BLOEDSTOLLINGSPROSESSE

Klinische Methoden der Blutgerinnungsanalyse. Von Prof. Dr. J. Jürgens und Doz. Dr. F. K. Beller. xii + 408 Seiten. 104 Abbildungen. DM 56.00. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1959.

In die eerste deel van hierdie werk word 'n teoretiese oorsig met wye literatuuroopgawe van die fisiologie en kinetiek van bloedstollingsprosesse aangebied. Laasgenoemde prosesse word tans (en voorlopig) in 4 fases, wat onderling die nouste verband het, geïnterpreteer.

Die praktiese waarde van die toepassing van hierdie teoretiese kennis van hemostase, asook van antistollingsterapie in kliniese gevalle, word bespreek, byvoorbeeld, die verband tussen bloedstolling en leweraandoeninge, diabetes mellitus, arteriosklerose, dis- en para-proteïenose, en ander siektetoestande.

In die tweede deel van hierdie bundel word metodes beskryf wat gebruik word by die ondersoek van verskillende faktore betrokke in die prosesse van bloedstolling, soos byvoorbeeld trombose, en plasmafaktore betrokke in die voor-fase en eerste fase van hemostase, fibrinogeen en die fibrinolitiese sisteem, asook faktore wat die bloedstollingsprosesse inhibeer.

Metodes vir die bepaling van die gesamentlike tyd van bloedstolling word ook nog verstrek.

Ten laaste word metodes van voorbereiding en reagens aangegedui wat gebruik word tydens die ondersoek van bloedstollingsfaktore in plasma, met die toevoeging van verskeie *in vitro* reagerende antikoagulase stowwe.

J.L.

ALDOSTERONE

Aldosterone in Clinical and Experimental Medicine. By E. J. Ross, M.D., Ph.D., M.R.C.P. Pp. viii + 144. 22s. 6d. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. 1959.

This book is based upon an M.D. thesis by Dr. Ross, who worked on aldosterone while with Dr. Thorn and his group in Boston. Into a fairly small space the author has packed a first-rate account of the present position with regard to all facets of knowledge concerning aldosterone. By the very nature of this sort of monograph it is inevitable that much of it must soon become out of date, but at the moment it appears to survey all the important recent work. There is a very adequate list of references (over 540). The book is clearly written and not over-technical. It is plain that it can be highly recommended to all persons interested in the subject. W.P.U.J.

ILLINGWORTH'S SURGERY

A Short Text-book of Surgery. 7th edition. By C. F. W. Illingworth, C.B.E., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Ed.). Pp. viii + 547. 254 text-figures with 16 plates. 45s. net. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1959.

The seventh edition of Illingworth's *Surgery* indicates its continued popularity. The writing is clear, didactic and dogmatic—a little irritating for the postgraduate, but very suitable for the undergraduate student. Emphasis is laid on the commoner diseases and procedures and the price is right.

But even the author of a successful text-book has a duty and should feel an obligation to improve some of its less praiseworthy features. From where does he get these appalling illustrations? Does Fig. 52 come from Paget's original eponymous article? Those line drawings of Kocher's reduction of a dislocated shoulder—are they of the great Theodor himself in action? The reproduction of X-rays are lamentable. Those that do illustrate a point are heavily re-touched and those that are not re-touched illustrate nothing. Surely they are better omitted entirely?

There are otherwise few points of criticism. But withholding antitetanic serum except in 'punctured wounds or devitalized wounds heavily infected' is certainly not justified.

The book is recommended for the undergraduate student.

T.S.

NEURO-ANATOMY

Strong and Elwyn's Human Neuroanatomy. 4th edition. By R. C. Truex. Pp. xiii + 511. Illustrated. 80s. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1959.

The rearrangement of information and the additions made to the previous edition of this well-known text-book will be appreciated by all students of neurology. For those with little basic anatomical knowledge, a consideration of the comparative anatomy and embryology followed by a description of the gross features of the brain and spinal cord makes an easy introduction. However, the histology and the segmental and peripheral distribution of nerves are treated rather fully for a work intended primarily as a 'student text-book'. The rewritten chapter on the fibre tracts of the spinal cord provides an excellent account with clear illustrations of the nerve pathways and their disruption in various disease processes. The internal structure of the brain and brain stem are beautifully illustrated by diagrams and photographed serial sections, which makes for a clear understanding of cerebral function discussed in the text.

This book, with its many colour illustrations and thorough bibliography, is recommended to all students of neurology and neurosurgery.

P.C.K.