

BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKBESPREKINGS

CHIRURGIESE ENDOKRINOLOGIE

Clinical Endocrinology for Surgeons. By D. A. D. Montgomery, M.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P. and R.B. Welbourn, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Pp. viii + 567. Illustrated. R8.00. London: Edward Arnold Publishers. 1963.

Nuwe boeke oor die medisyne verskyn byna daagliks, maar meestal voorsien hulle nie in besondere behoeftes nie. Hierdie boek is egter anders en dit voorsien 'n behoefte wat tot nog toe bestaan het. Die onderwerp van chirurgiese endokrinologie word uitstekend en duidelik bespreek en die boek is 'n lus om te lees. 'n Groot hoeveelheid informasie wat die nuutste ontwikkelinge in endokrinologie insluit, is in dié boek te vind, en dit is duidelik dat die skrywers nie moeite ontsien het om die bes moontlike boek daar te stel nie.

Die boek word in drie dele verdeel. In die eerste gedeelte word die hipofise, sowel as die buislose kliere wat in direkte verhouding tot die hipofise staan, behandel. Daar is o.a. in hierdie gedeelte twee uitstekende hoofstukke oor die steroïedes en steroïed terapie. Die hoofstuk oor die tiroïed verdien ook vermelding aangesien dit besonder volledig, duidelik en leerzaam is. In die tweede deel van die boek word die ander endokriene kliere, o.a. die bynier medulla en die paratiroïed, behandel. Die laaste deel waarin die endokriene aspekte van algemene chirurgie bespreek word, is besonder interessant. Hieronder word o.a. die metaboliese veranderinge na trauma en die endokrien aspekte van mamma- en prostaatkarsinoom bespreek. In hierdie gedeelte is die laaste hoofstuk oor ahomalië van seksuele ontwikkeling uitstekend—hierdie veld wat dikwels moeilik verstaanbaar is, word eenvoudig en duidelik bespreek.

By elke onderwerp word die fisiologie en patologie ook bespreek sodat die boek 'n uitstekende een is vir nagraadse studente in chirurgie en vir die belangstellende chirurg. Vir die internis is die boek ook van waarde omdat die chirurgiese behandeling van verskillende endokriene siektetoestande kortliks bespreek word. Heeltemal tereg word besonderhede van operatiewe tegniek weggelaat. Die skrywers lê klem op die belangrikste chirurgiese toestande en wy heelwat spasie hieraan in die boek. Ook word toestande wat nie in gewone boeke oor chirurgie bespreek word nie, b.v. anomalië van seksuele ontwikkeling, behandel. Aan die einde van elke hoofstuk is daar 'n uitstekende lys van verwysings met die oog op verdere studie.

Ons moet met dank kennis neem dat hierdie boek verskyn het en die skrywers behoort in hul skik te voel met hierdie werk.
B.J.v.R.D.

ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION

Clinical Practice and Physiology of Artificial Respiration. By J. M. K. Spalding, D.M. (Oxon.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.) and A. C. Smith, M.A. (Oxon.), M.B. (Edin.), F.F.A.R.C.S. Pp. vii + 144. Illustrated. R3.00. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1963.

The use of prolonged artificial respiration by mechanical means holds an undisputed place in modern therapy of an increasing number of medical and surgical conditions. This book, from the Respiration Unit at Oxford, is by the physician anaesthetist team largely responsible for developing and demonstrating the practical therapeutic possibilities of artificial respiration in the United Kingdom.

The significance and importance of early recognition of respiratory insufficiency is emphasized and the practical management of cases presented in a delightfully thorough yet simple way.

The physiology of artificial respiration is dealt with concisely but no significant aspect has been overlooked. There is an interesting discussion on the value of negative pressure phase in respirators. Details of individual respirator types have been wisely omitted but the reader is placed in a position to decide upon the specification of any machine he might choose for each type of case.

This is a thoroughly good book, which should be read by all who deal with respiratory insufficiency from any cause whatever.
A.B.B.

ADVANCES IN ANGIOLOGY

The Peripheral Blood Vessels. Ed. by J. L. Orbison, M.D. and D. E. Smith, M.D. Pp. xiii + 357. Illustrated. R10.40. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co.; and London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox Ltd. 1963.

This fourth monograph of the series, sponsored by the International Academy of Pathology, deals, in 13 chapters, with various aspects of peripheral blood vessels. The first part of the book consists of six articles on development, structure, chemical composition and function of normal blood vessels.

In the second part aetiological factors of peripheral vascular diseases, such as nutritional, hormonal, immunological, and infectious influences are discussed, as well as morphological manifestations of vascular diseases, i.e. thrombosis, purpura and collagen diseases. The reader who expects a systematic treatise on angiology will be somewhat disappointed by this book. It was, however, not intended to be a systematic textbook of angiology, but rather a report on certain facets of new scientific endeavours. With this in mind, I find most of the articles a stimulating source of information, which make interesting reading. The literature is quoted freely and there are 30 pages of author and subject indexes. The production of this book is as good as those of the previous volumes of the series.

H.W.W.

KONFERENSIE OOR EPIDEMIOLOGIE

Epidemiology. Reports on research and teaching, 1962. Ed. by J. Pemberton. Pp. xviii + 341. R5.50. London and Cape Town: Oxford University Press. 1963.

Hierdie studie bestaan uit verslae gelewer op 'n internasionale konferensie oor epidemiologie wat in 1961 in Joegoslawië gehou was.

Dit is duidelik dat 'n deeglike studie van die epidemiologie baie tot 'n beter begrip van siektes kan bydra. Die hoofstukke oor kanker, bloeddruk, bissinose, standardisasie van ondersoek metodes en onlangse ontwikkelings in die doseer van sosiale geneeskunde is besonder geslaagd.

Nieteenstaande groot gapinge is dit 'n waardevolle versameling beskouings oor die epidemiologie. Verskillende stimulerende navorsingsmoontlikhede word aan die hand gedoen.

F.P.S.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN AFRICA

Planning for Health. By M. Colbourne. Pp. 106. London and Cape Town: Oxford University Press. 1963.

The New Africa Library Series is published with the object of making accessible to African leaders and citizens, knowledge relevant to the political, economic and social changes now taking place throughout Africa.

The author, Dr. Michael Colbourne, approached the subject of public health from a preventative point of view. It is an informative book for the lay reader. The problems of providing essential health services are presented in a clear and comprehensive manner. The coordination of health development with the development of other public services is essential.

J.W.v.d.R.

HISTORY OF SURGERY

The Story of Wound Healing and Wound Repair. By Allen O. Whipple, M.D., D.Sc. Pp. xiii + 123. Illustrated. \$5.75. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1963.

Starting with the earliest known descriptions of surgical practice as depicted on the papyri and monuments of ancient Egypt, this book unfolds the history of medicine and surgery throughout the ages, emphasizing those doctrines (and their proponents) and events which have influenced the surgical management of wounds up to modern times. This brilliantly written and beautifully produced book is highly recommended to all who take an interest in medical history.

W.M.R.