

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

DENTAL EMERGENCIES

Management of Oral Emergencies. By D. M. Laskin, D.D.S., M.S. Pp. xv + 107. Illustrated. \$5.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

Written by a very experienced dental surgeon and Professor of Oral and Maxillo-facial Surgery at the University of Illinois, this book is intended for dentists, who will find in it a ready form of treatment for almost any dental emergency.

The chapter on antibiotics contains a lucid statement of current thought and can be endorsed firmly; so can the statement that only the simplest narcotics for 'dry socket' should be prescribed because of the possibility of addiction.

The book abounds with reasonably argued and acceptable forms of simple treatment and can be heartily recommended.

T.S.

BASIC SURGERY

Textbook of Surgery. Ed. by D. A. Macfarland and L. P. Thomas. Pp. xi + 759. Illustrated. R6.00. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1964.

The authors aim at providing surgical information in a concise form, thus enabling the undergraduate student to obtain the essentials of teaching in a clear and understandable sequence. All aspects of general surgery, as well as the special branches, are covered. Detailed information must necessarily therefore be lacking, but useful references provide the scholar with additional reading matter. Especially useful illustrations serve to emphasize important practical points. In this era of super-specialization such a source of basic surgical information is to be welcomed in undergraduate training.

D.R.deV.

SCIENCE OF FRACTURES

Modern Trends in Orthopaedics, 4. Ed. by J. M. P. Clark, M.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S. Pp. viii + 254. Illustrated. R6.23. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1964.

This is the 4th volume in the series entitled *Modern Trends in Orthopaedics* and, while the 3rd volume described the treatment of fractures, the present number deals with the biochemical, biomechanical and biophysical aspects of osteogenesis and bone repair.

11 British contributors attempt to reduce skeletal biological mysteries to fundamentals of cell biology in several chapters concerning molecular structure, organization, mineralization and blood supply of bone, etc. Then follows the application of this basic knowledge to the subjects of fracture repair, bone grafting, transplantation immunity and other related matters. It is quite remarkable how much recent work on the complexities of bone formation and its relationship to bone pathology and bone injury has been crowded into so small a volume. Despite the spectacular experimental researches described in this brilliant presentation of our present knowledge, the authors make it clear that what is known of the subjects discussed gives only an indication of the amount still unknown.

The book is well produced, a noteworthy feature being the excellent photomicrographs. Each subject has a most complete and up-to-date list of references appended to it. Altogether this is a fascinating volume and can be strongly recommended to orthopaedic surgeons and others who seek the key to the fundamental processes underlying bone disease and injury.

J.M.E.

ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

Give and Take. The development of tissue transplantation. By F. D. Moore, M.D. Pp. xii + 182. Illustrated. \$5.50. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co. 1964.

Prof. Francis Moore is already well known for his many excellent publications, and in this monograph he once again displays his exceptional grasp of scientific problems. The book is a review of the development of organ transplantation and an explanation of the many involved problems in this field.

Medical men will welcome this book which gives them a clear exposition of the present situation in organ transplantation. It is written in simple language, with many explanatory footnotes, making it perfectly understandable to laymen.

This monograph is strongly recommended to all people interested in biology and I cannot think of a better way of interesting a young person in medicine than to give him this superb little book as a gift.

D.J.duP.

PHYSICAL DIAGNOSIS

Notes on Physical Diagnosis. By J. Zatuchni, A.B., M.S. (Int.Med.), M.D. Pp. 374. Illustrated. R4.80. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company; and Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

This book contains more than notes—it is a well-planned and comprehensive approach for the student entering his clinical years. The print is not good but it is clear and uncrowded, and the misprints are not so many as to be irritating although the type-setter has spoiled the whole of the last paragraph of chapter 26. The 23 pages of questions outlining the history-taking and physical examination would appear less formidable if placed at the end of the book as an appendix, with the 196 references (not all American) and the useful index. There is a pleasing economy in the use of words in this most commendable handbook.

T.J.

DIABETES

Actiology of Diabetes Mellitus and its Complications. Ciba Foundation Colloquia on Endocrinology, Vol. 15. Ed. by M. P. Cameron, M.A. and M. O'Connor, B.A. Pp. xiv + 405. Illustrated. R6.00. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1964.

This colloquium is very timely, the subject being of increasing importance. The participants include most of the leading figures in this field, both in the sphere of research and clinical experience. Papers stress the high incidence of diabetes and its increasing recognition in those with coronary and peripheral vascular disease, thus linking the two problems.

The field covered includes studies of the pancreas, anti-insulin factors which may be linked with the aetiology of diabetes and includes the theory that the primary disturbance is that of fatty-acid metabolism. Papers on vascular lesions, renal and retinal, with knowledge derived from studies with the ultramicroscope, are well presented. Many of the papers are reports on research and may be somewhat technical; each is followed by excellent discussion.

This book is of great interest to all primarily interested in diabetes and gives a good picture of current thought on the subject. Once again we are grateful to Ciba Foundation for sponsoring an excellent colloquium.

I.G.

HARTKLANKE

The Theory and Practice of Auscultation. Ed. by B. L. Segal, M.D. The 9th Hahnemann Symposium. Pp. xv + 562. Illustrated. R11.60. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

In hierdie simposium word huidige begrippe in verband met die oorsprong, die uitstraling en die kliniese betekenis van kardiovaskulêre klanke bespreek. Daar word op gewys dat die nuere ontwikkelings op die gebied van klank-registrasie en -analise die gebruik van die stetoskoop versterk het en dat dit nou weer eens 'n waardige en goedkoop instrument is vir diagnose. Deur behoorlike kennis en deur toegewyde aandag aan die gebruik van hierdie instrument kan die pasiënt baie onaangename en duur ondersoekes gespaar word.

'n Groot veld word baie volledig in hierdie simposium gedek. Daar is nie minder as 71 referate nie en die inhoud dek 'n veld vanaf fisiese beginsels in verband met hartklanke tot 'n beskrywing van hartklanke gedurende normale gesondheid en siekte-toestande. Daarna word die verskillende kongenitale en verworwe hartsiektes stelselmatig benader en bespreek.

Hier vind ons dan 'n werk wat in sy geheel 'n waardevolle naslaanwerk met inhoud wat vir baie jare nuttig en geldig sal bly.

A.J.B.

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Atherosclerosis and its Origin. Ed. by M. Sandler and G. H. Bourne. Pp. xiii + 570. Illustrated. \$22.00. New York and London: Academic Press. 1963.

The over-all emphasis of this volume is on the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis. The subject is discussed from many different aspects by numerous authors, most of whom have made significant contributions in this field of research. The respective roles of serum lipids, diet, sex hormones, haemodynamics, the ground substance and metabolism of the arterial wall and relevant data in animals provide the reader with the rare opportunity for a bird's-eye view on current thought and work on this subject.

L.H.K.