

## BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKBESPREKINGS

## FUNDAMENTALS OF MEDICAL TREATMENT

*Fundamentals of Current Medical Treatment.* Ed. by C. W. H. Havard, M.A., D.M. (Oxon.), M.R.C.P. Pp. 875. R7.00. London: Staples Press. 1965.

This book is intended primarily for medical students and general practitioners. The twenty contributors to this work have all been actively engaged in the practice of medicine and the teaching of students. They therefore provide up-to-date information on the treatment of disease, although allowance must be made for the time lag between preparation of the manuscripts and the final printing. Particular attention is given in this volume to commonly occurring conditions, but the management of incurable diseases has not been overlooked.

A high percentage of prescriptions from doctors is based on data supplied by the pharmaceutical industry. The unbiased physician will do well to study this book with its new look at medical treatment. N.S.

## DRUGS IN TROPICAL MEDICINE

*Antibiotics and Sulphonamides in Tropical Medicine.* By J. Ungar and A. W. Woodruff. Pp. vii + 110. R1.40. London and Cape Town: Oxford University Press. 1965.

The confusion following the increasingly rapid appearance of new antibiotics and the fact that reports on results are widely diffused in the literature, have prompted the authors to present to practitioners dealing with tropical diseases concise information on the use of antibiotics, including the newer substances which are not yet so widely known. They have admirably succeeded in their aim and this little book—which fits comfortably into a coat pocket—can be highly recommended. It contains the basic facts on the use of 16 types of antibiotics and chemotherapeutic drugs in all the important bacterial, spirochaetal, leptospiral, protozoal and fungal tropical diseases. D.d.B.

## OCULAR SURGERY

*Clinical Surgery, Vol 2—The Eye.* Ed. by Sir S. Duke-Elder, K.C.V.O., Ph.D., LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. Pp. ix + 365. Illustrated. R9.00. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1964.

This volume edited by Stewart Duke-Elder forms part of a larger series covering the whole of clinical surgery which is edited and compiled by Charles Rob and Rodney Smith. In the words of the editor it is intended 'to present a short but yet relatively complete description of the more common ocular affections'. There are 21 chapters, each chapter dealing with an anatomical area and written by a different ophthalmic surgeon. As a result the chapters vary considerably in standard and in presentation of present-day concepts: e.g. some chapters have excellent bibliographies and others have none; some of the authors have not brought their chapters fully up-to-date—the chapter dealing with the treatment of dendritic ulcers of the cornea does not mention IDU.

In some of the sections one gets the impression that large areas were merely copied over from older textbooks, e.g. in the discussion on the general treatment of phlyctenular conjunctivitis no mention is made of a search for underlying tuberculosis infection and its treatment, but the value of adequate diet, fresh air and sunshine are stressed; in the description of the operative removal of a dislocated lens no mention is made of more recent methods and the impression is gained that the author has not often been faced with the problem of removing a dislocated lens.

Notwithstanding these criticisms the book on the whole is well written, well compiled and can be of great use to the general practitioner as a reference for the more common ocular diseases. Some of the chapters, particularly the chapter on examination of the eye, are excellently presented and well worth reading. This book can be recommended for undergraduates or practitioners who require a compact yet relatively comprehensive reference book on ophthalmology. M.H.L.

## WONDGENESING

*Wound Healing and Management.* A monograph for surgeons. By D. M. Douglas, M.B.E., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. Pp. viii + 175. R6.00. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

Hierdie boek is geskrywe deur prof. M. Douglas, professor in die chirurgie by die Universiteit van St. Andrews, en handel oor die genesing en behandeling, hoofsaaklik van operasiewonde. Die boek is in 3 dele verdeel en is met uitstekende foto's geïllustreer.

In die eerste deel word die grondbeginsels van wondgenesing bespreek. 'n Mens kry egter die indruk dat die skrywer hierdie deel afgeskep het, en veral die chemiese aspekte van wondgenesing word net aangeraak. Dit is wel waar dat baie van die chemiese aspekte nog onbekend is, maar hierdie interessante aspek van wondgenesing kon tog beter bespreek gewees het.

In die tweede deel van die boek word die genesing van oppervlakkige en diep wonde bespreek, en aandag word ook gegee aan sistemiese en lokale faktore wat genesing mag aanhelp of teëwerk. Verder word genesing van spesiale weefsels bespreek. Alhoewel 'n deel van die werk wat hier weer-gegee word, deur die skrywer self gedoen is, verwys die grootste deel na eksperimentele werk van ander skrywers, en daar is ongelukkig 'n gebrek aan deeglike bespreking van die eksperimentele bevindings.

Die derde deel is van groot praktiese waarde want dit gaan oor die behandeling van chirurgiese wonde. 'n Hele paar hoofstukke word gewy aan operasiekamer-tegnieke en sterilisasie van apparaat. Die plaaslike behandeling van wonde en wond-infeksie, wonddisrupsie en snitbreuke word ook bespreek.

Myns insiens lê die waarde van die boek veral in die inhoud van die derde deel. Die besondere goeie afbeeldings wat dwarsdeur die boek verskyn, en die bibliografie, is ook van waarde. B.J.v.R.D.

## POSTGRADUATE DERMATOLOGY

*Progress in the Biological Sciences in Relation to Dermatology—2.* Ed. by A. Rook, M.D., F.R.C.P. and R. H. Champion, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P. Pp. xiii + 499. Illustrated. R13.00. London: Cambridge University Press. 1964.

The proceedings of Arthur Rook's first postgraduate course on dermatology, held in Cambridge in 1958, were universally appreciated and these reports of the second course (1963) will be equally acclaimed. The subjects discussed were the functions of connective tissue; ageing of skin; regeneration and repair; subcutaneous fat; keratinization; percutaneous absorption and the epidermal barrier; hair; cutaneous circulation; bulla formation; and some new techniques in research.

The reading of some articles is made difficult by the citation of references in brackets (authors, year); numbers would be less distracting when citations are numerous. J.M.

## MONITORING DEVICES IN ANAESTHESIA

*Instrumentation and Anesthesia.* Vol. 2/1964 of *Clinical Anesthesia.* Ed. by W. H. L. Dornette, M.D. Pp. xi + 198. Illustrated. R4.00. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

Surgical procedures of increasing magnitude are being undertaken on patients of poorer and poorer physical status, requiring more profound interference with physiological normal on the part of the anaesthetist. It has become essential, therefore, for the anaesthetist to have an accurate measurement of as many physiological parameters as he can.

This book deals with the present state of monitoring devices used in anaesthesia. While it is evident today that knowledge of the design and detailed working of the many complex electronic devices necessary for accurate monitoring falls into the sphere of the specialist in medical electronics and bio-engineering, the anaesthetist who uses such apparatus should have some knowledge of their basic working and limitations. This knowledge is adequately provided by the eleven

co-authors of this book, while the indications for monitoring and the dangers of over-enthusiasm and over-reliance on the information so gained, are succinctly given by the editor.

A.B.B.

#### YEARBOOK OF MEDICINE

*The Year Book of Medicine.* (1964 - 1965 Year Book Series.) Ed. by P. B. Beeson, M.D., C. Muschenheim, M.D., W. B. Castle, M.D., T. R. Harrison, M.D., F. J. Ingelfinger, M.D. and P. K. Bondy, M.D. Pp. 808. Illustrated. \$8.50. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1964.

This yearbook maintains the high standard of its predecessors. As before, it is made up of summaries of all the significant papers dealing especially with the advancing fields of medical science and research, and it would be difficult to find a better way to keep in touch with such developments. Most space is devoted to topics of general import and where the advances are greatest. Of interest in this respect are the summaries dealing with dysbarism which has become important to all of us with the growing popularity of 'skin diving'. The cardiac arrhythmias and their treatment by electrical cardioversion and blood coagulation mechanisms are two other topics given full cover.

The volume is excellently produced with useful graphs and tables, but it is doubtful whether it is worth printing reproductions of X-ray films as the small size inevitably obscures detail. However, as in the past, the volume can be unreservedly recommended to every medical practitioner.

H.M.

#### TREATMENT OF ARTHRITIS

*Modern Treatment*, Vol. 1, No. 5. Treatment of epilepsy—ed. by R. N. DeJong, M.D. Treatment of arthritis—ed. by C. M. Pearson, M.D. Pp. 1039 - 1350. Illustrated. Bimonthly publication, subscription \$16.00 per year. New York: Hoeber Medical Division, Harper & Row Publishers. 1964.

This booklet achieves its objectives and provides concise summaries of many aspects of epilepsy and arthritis, including recent trends and advances. It helps assure a reader that he is reasonably up-to-date with contemporary ideas and practice. Drug toxicity is prominently featured. The chapter on the psychological, sociological and economic problem of epilepsy is well presented.

M.H.

#### VIRUSES IN CANCER

*Viruses, Nucleic Acids, and Cancer.* A collection of papers presented at the 17th Annual Symposium on Fundamental Cancer Research, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumour Institute, Houston, Texas, 1963. Pp. 659. Illustrated. \$16.00. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co. 1963.

The relationship of viruses and their nucleic acids to cancer is one of the most active fields of biological research today, and contributions from many of the foremost workers in this field are to be found in this symposium. As a result, a great number of facts relating to this work are gathered together in one volume, forming a welcome addition to the literature on this subject.

The initial chapters are devoted to the structure of viruses, followed by biochemical studies which include investigation of the nucleic acids of these viruses. The latter part of the book is devoted to papers and discussions on the role of certain viruses in carcinogenesis. Although some of the papers are rather complex and intended for the specialist, this volume is a useful, if not essential, addition to the bookshelves of any research worker in these and related fields.

W.duT.N.

#### CHEST ALLERGY

*Sensitivity Chest Diseases.* Ed. by M. Coleman Harris, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.C.C.P. and Norman Shure, M.D., M.S. (Path.), F.A.C.P. Pp. 359. R14.00. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co.; and Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. 1964.

The editors of this excellent book must be congratulated on their choice of contributors and the wealth of information contained in just over 300 pages. Too few medical men are really interested in, or speak with authority on, chest allergy.

This work provides a valuable guide to the most recent advances in the recognition and treatment of sensitivity chest diseases and stresses particularly the technique of allergic investigation of allergies, pathology and diagnosis of pulmonary manifestations of altered reactivity, as well as the basic immunological procedures on the molecular level.

The work is not voluminous, although detailed enough to be of great benefit even to the allergist and chest specialist. Clinical management in particular is of extreme importance to every doctor. References are well chosen and scientific data, tables and illustrations enhance the value of an altogether first-class publication.

G.S.M.B.

#### ANATOMIESE ATLAS

*Atlas of Human Anatomy*, Vols. 1, 2 and 3. 17th ed. By F. Kiss, M.D. and J. Szentágothai, M.D. Pp. 317, 229 and 326. Illustrated. R12.60 per set. Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1964.

Die verskyning in Engels van die sewentiende uitgawe van bogenoemde atlas, stel 'n boek wat vir baie jare reeds in allerhande tale, o.a. Russies en Chinee, vertaal is, bekend aan die Engelslesende gemeenskap. Om dit 'n Engelse uitgawe te noem is nie heeltemal juis nie. Die byskrifte by die illustrasies is almal in Latyn. Die enigste Engels in die drie volumes verskyn op die buiteblad, in die voorwoord, as onderskrifte by die illustrasies naas die Latynse en as verklarings van die minder algemene Latynse terme in die indeks.

Nogtans is dit 'n baie voortreflike atlas met goeie illustrasies op glanspapier en dit is sterk gebind. Die prys is besonder billik en dit behoort die sakke van die meeste studente te pas.

Die drie-dimensionale illustrasies van die oor en die oog is baie goed. Die voorstelling van fassia as 'n deurskynende laag met die onderliggende strukture sigbaar, is geslaag. Die inguinale gebied is besonder goed uitgebeeld.

J.F.vanE.K.

#### PSYCHOLOGY OF DEAFNESS

*Psychology of Deafness.* 2nd ed. By H. R. Myklebust. Pp. xii + 423. Illustrated. \$7.75. New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1965.

This book, originally intended as a textbook for advanced courses in audiology, language pathology, deaf education and psychology, has already become a standard text in its field and has been brought up-to-date in this second edition. Myklebust has clearly shown that a relationship was found between deafness and personality development. Psychological organization and structure are different when deafness is present from infancy and it is these differences that must constitute the fundamental basis for educational planning and for instituting guidance programmes designed to alleviate the specialized problems in learning and adjustment.

For anyone subscribing to these views, Myklebust's book can be strongly recommended.

W.H.

#### ANAESTHESIA

*Anesthesia and the Circulation.* (Vol. 3/1964 of *Clinical Anesthesia*.) Ed. by L. W. Fabian, M.D. Pp. ix + 153. Illustrated. R4.00. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

This is in reality a collection of essays and original works involving the action of anaesthesia and anaesthetic drugs, particularly on the myocardium. There is in addition a useful introductory chapter on normal cardiovascular physiology. The chapter on the effects of respiratory acidosis on the circulation is of particular interest, as it indicates a revolution in American anaesthesiologists' thinking on the action of relaxants on the heart. Thus, now, after much controversy, the original British attitude of providing adequate respiratory exchange to avoid any effects on the heart, is at last accepted.

Much of the remainder of the work may now be gleaned from current literature, but the book as a whole represents a wind of change in American anaesthesia towards modern anaesthetic attitudes.

J.L.

## PULMONARY ATLAS

*Atlas of Pulmonary Resections.* By B. H. Burch, M.A., M.D., F.A.C.S. and A. C. Miller, M.S., M.D., F.A.C.S. Pp. ix + 162. Illustrated. \$12.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1965.

The authors have divided this large well-printed atlas into a section concerned with basic technical considerations required in most pulmonary resections and a second section dealing with specific operative procedures. But is it necessary, even in an atlas, to use 13 illustrations to demonstrate how a cut-down should be done in the leg? And is there merit in showing how each pulmonary segment of each lung should be removed?

Both authors and publisher deserve credit for the painstaking attention to detail and their obvious sincerity in trying to make this a worth-while publication, but I am unable to decide at whom the book is aimed. For the casual perusal of a few hours the price is rather high. G.S.M.B.

## IONIZING RADIATION

*The Science of Ionizing Radiation.* Modes of application. Ed. by L. E. Etter, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.R. Pp. xv + 788. Illustrated. \$26.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1965.

This is a well-produced and expensive book with clear type and good illustrations but it is difficult to see that it serves any real purpose. The excuse for offering a book covering the multiple uses of ionizing radiation is weak, because there is little real connection between the very wide variation in usage. The specialized chapters would be better in books devoted to their own subjects. Several of them are excellent reviews of the present status of rapidly expanding arts, but not even the portrait of the contributor at the top of each chapter can make them all readable or even useful.

This book might have some place in a library of general knowledge but it will be of little help to practising radiologists or any whose daily work concerns ionizing radiation. P.E.S.P.

## CLINICAL SURGERY

*Clinical Surgery.* Vol. 1—General principles and the breast. Ed. by C. Rob, M.C., M.Chir., F.R.C.S. and R. Smith, M.S., F.R.C.S. Pp. xiii + 580. Illustrated. R9.00. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1964.

Comprised of contributions by 36 writers who are acknowledged leaders in their respective fields, this volume deals with general clinical management exclusively, laying particular stress on recent advances and innovations.

The only section which deals with a particular system or organ is the chapter on the breast, and here a full description of diagnostic and therapeutic measures is provided.

The extensive lists of references at the ends of the chapters will save both surgeon and postgraduate student many hours of tedious search in the library. J.J.W.v.Z.

## ASIAN PAEDIATRICS

*Asian Pediatrics.* Scientific Proceedings of the First All-Asian Congress of Pediatrics, New Delhi, January 1961. Ed. by S. K. Bose and A. K. Dey. Illustrated. London: Asia Publishing House. 1965.

As a report of an historic congress this is a well-edited volume containing the papers of no less than 90 contributors. Paediatrics in Asia has much that is of interest to paediatricians here: some of the subject material, e.g. on childhood cirrhosis, contains basic information not to be easily found elsewhere. Many papers are simply descriptive of problems as they occur in different areas. It is clear that with more sophistication and increased facilities much important medical research will come out of the abundant clinical material available. This book is recommended as a reference work and as a record of the state of Afro-Asian paediatrics at the beginning of the current decade. J.H.

## MODERN OPHTHALMOLOGY

*Modern Ophthalmology.* Vols. 2, 3 and 4. Ed. by A. Sorsby. Pp. xii + 716, xii + 528, and xii + 529-1093. Illustrated. R15.43 (Vol. 2), R25.20 (Vols. 3 & 4 together) or R48.00 for set of 4 vols. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1964.

Professor Sorsby's skill as the editor, makes this an excellent work of reference.

Volume 2 deals with the systemic aspects of the subject and is divided into six major parts: these are prenatal pathogenic influences; infections and allied disorders; nutritional, metabolic and endocrine disturbances; disturbances of the central nervous system; the cardiovascular and haemopoietic systems; and other general disturbances.

Volumes 3 and 4 should be taken together since they deal with topical aspects of the subject. Emphasis is placed on aetiological considerations and sections are included on developmental defects, tumours, injuries, infections, diseases of multiple or indefinite origin, and functional anomalies of the eye. There are sections on disorders of the adnexa and specialized forms of treatment, including many and varied surgical procedures.

Each section has a good bibliography and a reader not finding what he requires will certainly have a fair idea of where to look for more information.

Practising ophthalmologists and senior students in the field should find these four reference volumes a great stand-by, as they are without a doubt an acquisition to any ophthalmological library. G.L.T.

## KLINIESE HEMATOLOGIE

*Clinical Haematology in Medical Practice.* 2nd ed. By G. C. de Gruchy, M.D. (Melb.), F.R.A.C.P., M.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.C.P.A. Pp. xii + 681. Illustrated. R7.00. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

Hierdie teksboek van hematologie het in die kort bestek van 6 jaar sedert die 1ste uitgawe verskyn het, gegroei tot 'n standaard handleiding vir studente en klinici in die Engelsprekende mediese wêreld. Deur die 2de uitgawe op dunner papier en in kleiner druk te publiseer, het die skrywer daarin geslaag om 'n oorwegend kliniese teks uit te brei na 'n besonder omvattende fisiologies-kliniese handboek sonder dat die formaat veel beïnvloed is.

Kritiek kan op 'n paar punte uitgebring word: foto-illustrasies is nog nie van dieselfde standaard as die teks nie—afdrukke teenoor bl. 181 (beenmurg-karsinomatose), bl. 366 (chromosoompatroon) en bl. 415 (mielomatose) is bv. ondoeltreffend. Hoewel nuttige opsommingstabelle een van die kenmerke van die boek is, wonder mens of oorlaaide tabelle soos dié oor hemolitiese siekte nie sy doel mis nie. Enkele drukfoutige woord ook opgemerk.

Hierdie geringe besware word vanselfsprekend geheel oorskadu deur doeltreffende herrangskikking en toevoegings tot hierdie uitgawe. Nuwer gedeeltes sluit o.a. in 'n oorsig van eritrosiet-metabolisme en ensiemstoornisse, hemoglobienstruktuur en -afwykings, die pato-fisiologie van stolling, eritropoëtin en die patogenese van megaloblastose. Die verouderde konsep insake interaksie tussen vitamien B<sub>12</sub> en foliensuur is tereg uit hierdie uitgawe gelaat. Die variërende letter-grootte is 'n verbetering—dit lees maklik en skep nie die indruk dat toevoegings sonder meer gelap is op 'n eëf gewysigde inhoud nie. Die boek word dus sonder voorbehoud aanbeveel as 'n uitstaande naslaanwerk vir studente en klinici; selfs gevorderde hematoloë sal dit 'n ryk bron van inligting vind. F.P.R.

## HISTOLOGY TEXTBOOK

*Bailey's Textbook of Histology.* 15th ed. Revised by W. M. Copenhaver, Ph.D. Pp. xiii + 679. Illustrated. R10.80. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co; and London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox Ltd. 1964.

The macroscopic, microscopic, and diagrammatical illustrations are clear and distinct, and the descriptions are precise and easy to follow. At places the relationship of histology to physiology or pathology is emphasized, e.g. in the accounts of the stomach wall and the aorta. The book is presented primarily for students, rather than as a reference book for teachers and specialists. M.H.

## NEUROSURGICAL ANAESTHESIA

*Neurosurgical Anaesthesia.* By A. R. Hunter, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Glas.), F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A. Pp. xi + 211. Illustrated. R3.75. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

Written by one of the foremost British exponents of neurosurgical anaesthesia, this book is largely an account of personal methods, leavened by selected references, making it nevertheless a very good as well as readable account. It is not an exhaustive review, but is possibly one of the best texts available.

It is built around the central theme of intracranial pressure, approached from anatomical, physiological, pharmacological and clinical aspects. Good, if somewhat generalized, accounts of hypotensive and hypothermic techniques are included, but

no mention is made of local analgesia for spinal operations, and intrathecal use of phenol might well have been included. If there is one major criticism, it is that the early chapters in particular are too generalized for a specialist book, and also contain a number of typographical errors, some of which alter the sense. Figures should be referred to in the text.

As with first editions, there are omissions: there is no mention of the dangers of hypotension with raised intracranial pressure, or the problem of urea in the presence of intracranial haemorrhage, and little is said of monitoring devices. The circle absorber is even omitted from the account of apparatus. The author's advocacy of heroin will raise problems for some readers who cannot obtain the drug. However, these are minor criticisms of a worth-while book for both post-graduate student and specialist.

P.A.F.