

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

SPORT INJURIES

Injury in Sport. The physiology, prevention and treatment of injuries associated with sport. Ed. by J. R. Armstrong, M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S. and W. E. Tucker, C.V.O., M.B.E., T.D., F.R.C.S. Pp. xii + 628. Illustrated. R12.60. London: Staples Press. 1964.

This unusual and extremely useful volume has been compiled by a panel of experts. It consists of three parts. The first deals with different aspects of the working of the human body. The second part concerns itself with the individual consideration of many games and sports, and the views of many laymen who are each expert in their own sphere are included. The third portion of the book is devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of the many injuries which may occur in sport.

The book is very well produced, the paper, printing and illustrations are excellent and a strong feature is the very practical way the various contributors have approached their subject. Thus the question of diet in training is considered with sense and without prejudices. 'Crash diets, food substitute powders, pills, dehydration and other stunts should be avoided like the plague!'

Two small omissions: cramp in swimming is not mentioned, neither is the conjunctivitis which is so irritating to those athletes who have to swim in chlorinated public baths.

I can thoroughly recommend this book to all those who have the care of athletes in their hands. T.S.

BONE DYSPLASIAS

Dynamic Classification of Bone Dysplasia. By P. Rubin, M.D. Pp. xiii + 410. Illustrated. \$27.00. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers Inc. 1964.

Professor Rubin has overlooked no aspect of bone growth and bone dysplasias, and their application to clinical medicine, in his masterly monograph which is much more than a dynamic

classification of bone dysplasias.

From the construction of a simple modelling scheme, a sequential series of intrinsic errors is hypothesized and a predictable group of bone dysplasias follows. The basic assumption is that there can be only one dysplasia for each error and, conversely, that a specific modelling error can result in only one dysplasia.

As an experimental radiobiologist with a rich experience in clinical radiology, Professor Rubin has made expert use of diagnostic and therapeutic radiology, biochemical methods, radio-isotopes and the electron-microscope, which have enabled him to assign specific growth functions to specialized anatomical units, and to identify and evaluate disturbance of growth at these sites.

This scholarly book, written in a pleasing style with hundreds of excellent radiographs, explanatory line-drawings and modelling sketches, gives a brilliant exposition of the principles underlying bone growth and bone dysplasias which must satisfy the most fastidious. T.F.

HOSPITAL MORALE

Standards for Morale: Cause and Effect in Hospitals. By R. W. Revans, M.I.Min.E. Pp. xvi + 134. 75c. London and Cape Town: Oxford University Press. 1964.

This is an excellent book on hospital morale. It objectively analyses the causes of student nurse wastage in hospitals in Great Britain. In the analysis many interesting facts come to light about the interrelationship of doctors, nurses and patients and the important influence this relationship has on nurses' training and its accompanying wastage, and also on the average length of hospitalization of patients.

This book should be a standard reference work for all hospital administrators, matrons, sister tutors and ward sisters. P.N.S.

BACKGROUND TO VASCULAR DISEASE

Biological Aspects of Occlusive Vascular Disease. Ed. by D. G. Chalmers, M.B., B.S., M.A. and G. A. Gresham, M.D., M.A., F.Z.S. Pp. xiv + 420. Illustrated. R12.00. London: Cambridge University Press. 1964.

All the chapters in this book were papers presented at a symposium on the biological aspects of occlusive vascular disease (the date of the symposium is not mentioned). It is noteworthy that of 38 contributors, 34 are working in the United Kingdom and there is only 1 American author.

The book is in four sections: normal and abnormal vascular structure and function; coagulation and the platelet; clinical and experimental pathology of vascular disease; and clinical research in this field. There are a number of good illustrations.

Although interesting as a background to research on biological aspects of degenerative vascular disease, it is felt that this volume is just another example of the recent tendency to publish indiscriminately the papers presented at organized meetings. The value of the book is limited by the lack of international exchange of ideas, reflected in the list of authors. Furthermore, in a field with as rapid expansion as this, it would be difficult for any book not to be outdated almost as soon as published.

This book may find a place on the shelves of researchers interested in this particular subject, as a part of the literature and history of work in the field of occlusive vascular disease, but has little appeal to others. C.N.B.

MUSCLE DISEASES

Disorders of Voluntary Muscle. Ed. by J. N. Walton, M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. x + 628. Illustrated. R10.00. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1964.

The 26 authors of this new textbook form an impressive array of British and American talent. The book has the merits and demerits of its multiple authorship in that each chapter comprises an authoritative report with numerous references to recent research, including the author's, but the overlap of information between chapters is considerable and terminology is not always consistent.

Modern ideas on the normal structure and function of voluntary muscle are presented and the pathology and clinical features of muscle diseases are clearly described. Due consideration is given to specialized techniques of investigation, including histochemistry, electromyography and pharmacological tests, and reference is made to comparative studies in different species. Emphasis is laid on the information to be obtained by the various procedures rather than on the details of technique.

Although the book is written primarily for the physician, it contains much of interest to the physiologist and the pathologist, and may be strongly recommended to all who are interested in neuromuscular activity. A.W.S.

PSYCHIATRIC THERAPY

Current Psychiatric Therapies, Vol. IV. Ed. by J. H. Masserman, M.D. Pp. xii + 315. \$9.75. New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1964.

The fourth volume of *Current Psychiatric Therapies* is just as interesting as the previous volumes. In this book the emphasis has been placed on social methods of treatment and is a reflection of the growing psychiatric interest in the functioning of the community. It is remarkable to note how the scope of psychiatry is enlarging and how diverse the therapeutic approaches have become, as illustrated by the inclusion of contributions such as 'Psychotherapy in general medical practice', 'Youthful offenders in psychotherapy', 'Choice of somatic therapies in depression', 'Multiple family therapy', 'Therapy in day and night psychiatric hospitals', and 'Hospital-community integration in psychiatric therapy'.

There are a total of 38 articles, of which four of the investigations were supported by grants. This volume brings to the fore the need for grants in this country to encourage investigations in this important field. A.B.D.

ABDOMINAL SURGERY

Access and Exposure in Abdominal Surgery. By H. A. F. Dudley, Ch.M., F.R.C.S.E. and P. F. Jones, M.Chir., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.S.E. Pp. xii + 148. Illustrated. R2.50. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1964.

This book gives an adequate account of the general technique of making an abdominal incision, details of individual incisions, factors which govern the choice of a particular incision, and methods of exposure found most rewarding by the authors. Apart from indicating their personal preferences, there is little in this book that cannot be found in the standard textbooks on abdominal surgery.

Sound surgical technique can be acquired only by apprenticeship. However, for the surgical trainee seeking guidance, this could serve as a useful *vade-mecum*. H.P.

FLUID THERAPY

A Guide to Learning Fluid Therapy. By D. C. Darrow, M.D. Pp. xiv + 280. \$9.75. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1964.

The name of Dr. Darrow is well known to all students of fluid therapy, particularly in children. This book can be recommended for postgraduate students, house-doctors and practitioners: it applies a scientific understanding of fluid therapy to everyday problems as well as the less common problems in fluid therapy. The author covers his subject very well and has also included a valuable chapter on burns. In the appendix there is a practical chapter on peritoneal dialysis which brings this work completely up-to-date. The book is pleasant to read, and is recommended to those who wish to become fully conversant with this subject. R.leS.v.d.R.

ECGs AND ANAESTHETICS

Electrocardiography for the Anaesthetist. By W. N. Rollason, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S. Pp. xii + 124. Illustrated. R3.00. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1964.

In spite of the extensive literature on electrocardiography, there existed a definite need for a treatise on the specific effects of anaesthesia and surgery on the electrocardiograph. Dr. Rollason set out to do just this.

Although this book was never intended to displace any cardiographic literature, the chapter on the 'Normal ECG' could have been clearer and more detailed—there is no clear explanation of *why* anything happens. The sections on 'The effect of anaesthetic agents' and 'The electrocardiogram during anaesthesia and surgery' are good reviews of the current literature.

This book is well worth reading because it will stimulate the anaesthetist to become more monitor-conscious. H.J.duT.

PSYCHIATRY

Psychiatry. Concise Medical Textbooks series. By E. W. Anderson, M.D., M.Sc., F.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.M. Pp. vii + 296. R1.60. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox Ltd. 1964.

Professor Anderson has succeeded in writing a very adequate introduction to this important subject. The book is well produced, the type is clear, and the text very readable. It contains all the essential facts which the student requires for his M.B. finals and should certainly succeed in stimulating his further interest in psychiatry. The publishers are to be congratulated on producing this excellent book at a price which all students will easily be able to afford. C.A.J.

DRUG EVALUATION

Animal and Clinical Pharmacologic Techniques in Drug Evaluation. Ed. by J. H. Nodine, M.D. and P. E. Siegler, M.D. Pp. xix + 660. Illustrated. \$18.00. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1964.

This book is most welcome and will prove a boon to all whose duty it is to evaluate new drugs scientifically. The evaluation of drugs in the many departments of a hospital can only be undertaken by experts knowledgeable in animal

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603

and human pharmacology, experimental design, pathophysiology, diagnosis, measurement of therapeutic response, animal and human toxicology, and other disciplines. In the 87 sections of this book, experts deal with techniques and the clinical appraisal of their value in animal and human studies. They reveal the need for an understanding of animal

methodology, and the interpretation of animal pharmacodynamic studies, for the experimental design of drug trials in man. They indicate the laboratory background required for studying the mechanism of drug action, absorption, distribution, excretion, and metabolism, and the biochemical alterations induced by the drugs under investigation. N.S.