BOOK REVIEWS


This book is designed to meet the need for a brief, comprehensive, account of the nature and content of psychiatry for the non-psychiatrist. It is written in question and answer form and possibly owes something to past examinations for the certificate of State registered mental nurse. Presumably its oddy extensive coverage of such conditions as G.P.I., in contrast to its scanty account of common disorders such as neurotic depression, is a reflection of the institutional preoccupations of these examinations in the past.

The parts of the book concerned with neuroanatomy and physiology, psychiatric pharmacology and organic psychiatry are excellent. These subjects lend themselves to “snappy” answers; and the crisp style of the book. Dynamic psychiatry is less easily captured in a few sentences and though it will provide useful revision of material read elsewhere no one is likely to grasp psychopathological concepts met here for the first time. Many however will be grateful for the systematic way the authors have rounded up relevant material and related diverse approaches to the same clinical topics. The chapter on Child psychiatry is the least satisfactory. It is idiosynratic in its selection of topics and resembles some other tailend sections in general psychiatry texts more than it resembles clinical child psychiatry.

However in general the book is very informative in a painless and stimulating way and packs in its facts with minimum padding. This will surely give it great appeal to those with little time and a lot to learn.

R. S. BRITTON


A good wine needs no bush and the publication of the ninth edition of this text-book, sixteen years after its first appearance, speaks for itself.

Once again the editor has presented the basic facts of medicine clearly and authoritatively. Each section of the book starts with a discussion of the anatomy and physiology of the system concerned so that understanding of symptomatology and treatment follows a logical sequence. This book has a down-to-earth approach and in the main deals with diseases that are commonly encountered in practice. Rare diseases and recherché syndromes are only mentioned if they serve to give a general principle or have some cultural interest. With editions appearing so frequently it is to be expected that this book should be up-to-date and the reader will not be disappointed in this respect. The editor has scrutinised with care every paragraph with regard to content, style and clarity of expression and he can be proud of his handiwork. The clarity of the printing makes the book a pleasure to read.

This book has always been among the most popular with medical students and this new edition can only enforce its position and enhance its reputation.

R. J. G. MORRISON


To produce the revised edition of this book Dr. Havard has kept round the editorial table the same galaxy of some 19 of the youngest consultants at the London teaching hospitals. They represent a generation young enough to have been in the very thick of the therapeutic revolution which has occurred in the past few years, but experienced enough to know the value of discernment. To add balance Sir Derrick Dunlop opens with a chapter on the principles of treatment. This contribution has wit, wisdom and originality and has been written in a personal and colloquial style with a golden pen.

The edition contains a supplement of 64 pages in which the therapeutic advances of the last two years are recorded. The book as a whole has been little disturbed. The more general aspects of treatment are first discussed, and after Sir Derrick’s introductory contribution, chapters on drug-induced diseases, anti-microbial therapy, corticosteroid treatment, diuretics, infectious diseases and immunization follow. The remainder of the book is devoted to the treatment of diseases affecting the various systems of the body. There is an excellent index embodying 60 pages.

The authors have adopted a basic approach to their subject. Each disease is presented briefly and clearly in physiological and pathological terms so that the reader knows not only what measures he must adopt but also the reasons for their use.

The book deals comprehensively with the treatment of disease. It reflects wisdom and experience and the approach is thoroughly up-to-date.

Modern medicine has so many effective therapeutic agents at its service that it is no surprise that so many volumes on treatment have appeared in recent years. This book is one of the best of them and can be recommended with confidence.

R. J. G. MORRISON


This book was commissioned by World Health Organisation “because screening for disease is now a subject of growing importance in developed countries, as is evidenced by the controversies over for example, cytological testing for cancer of the uterine cervix,” and is concerned mostly with chronic diseases of adults in developed countries.

Chapter One defines screening in its various aspects and is short and to the point. Chapter Two outlines the principles of screening while Chapter Three goes on to deal with the practical aspects, which
Book Reviews

are beautifully illustrated by examples from the literature in Chapter Four. “Methodological trends” from the questionnaire to the automated multitest laboratory are reviewed in Chapter Five. The final chapter “Conclusion” contains many home truths, not only applicable to disease screening, and I quote, “Too often in the past people have undertaken work in different countries”, and even the same country, “on the same disease conditions, only to find at a late stage that each group has been using differing definitions and therefore getting different results”.

Two hundred and sixty four references up to 1966 are quoted which with the concise and readable text form an excellent introduction to the subject. It should be compulsory reading for workers who are about to undertake “disease screening” for the first time and perhaps also for some who have climbed on the bandwagon of screening with little thought. Even as a paperback this book is well worth the small cost.

E. S. PARRY


This paperback is a verbatim report of the Glaxo Symposium on Post-gastrectomy Nutrition held at Greenford, Middlesex on 28th November 1966. It is divided into four sections each of which was chaired by an acknowledged expert: Vitamin B₁₂ and Folic Acid (Prof. C. C. Booth), Iron Deficiency (Prof. D. L. Mollins), Bone Disease (Prof. B. S. Platt) and Possible Answers (Dr. F. Avery Jones). Each section consists of one or more papers followed by a detailed discussion in which many of the leading workers in the field of post-gastrectomy nutrition take part.

The book as a whole is readable and easy to follow. It is particularly free from printers errors but unfortunately the cover is not durable.

For anyone interested in post-gastrectomy nutrition whether from the Surgical, Medical or Pathological aspect this book is essential reading. For the general reader it contains much of interest and is highly recommended.

E. S. PARRY

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**Book Reviews**


For the third edition this book has included the use of illustrations. Without doubt this has enhanced its value, although the quality of X-Ray reproduction is not uniformly high.

The book itself contains a wealth of material which is given in synopsis form. This allows the objective of 'a substantial yet concise presentation of orthopaedics and fractures' to be attained.

It already enjoys a deserved popularity with examinees, and in its latest form should attract a larger circle of devotees.

G. SMALL


Since its introduction in 1948 this book has held a prominent place among the reference books of the histopathologist. Willis has such a clear and methodical manner of argument and reasoning that what at first sight proposes to be a relatively dull subject becomes at once easily understandable and enjoyable.

In this latest edition the dynamic advances which have been made in the field of oncology since the 3rd edition in 1960 are well-covered. Many chapters have been completely revised and more than a thousand additional references have been quoted.

Of course one can always criticise some of the viewpoints held by Willis but it must not be forgotten that his opinions are the result of a highly-skilled personal observation of tumours over many years. "One can disagree and argue with his opinion but it would be a foolish person indeed who chose to ignore or discard Wills' opinion!"

This new edition is well-produced, adequately bound and reasonably priced and will definitely maintain the formidable reputation created by its predecessors on the bookshelves of every histopathological department throughout the World.

A note to all trainee pathologists. This book should not be considered as the isolated paragon of histopathology. The illustrations and morphological description of the various tumours are inadequate for any pathologist without a great deal of diagnostic experience. Willis, in his preface, refers to the two publications most suitable to supply these requirements.

A truly remarkable and highly recommended book.

D. M. WAYTE

**Planning for Hospital Expansion and Remodelling. DONALD C. THOMAS. Springfield Ill. CHARLES C. THOMAS., 1968. Pp. xvi + 112. Illustrated. $8.50.**

This book outlines some of the considerations which go into the planning process with particular emphasis on fund-raising and the selection of professional advisers. Whilst a book of this type may be useful in the American context it is doubtful whether the Service reader will obtain much guidance towards developing the facilities of a hospital or help in refuting opinions of planners.

I. N. DARBYSHIRE


Dr. Spillane is one of our most experienced neurologists, whose powers of observation and clinical judgment are acknowledged by all. Unlike some he is as much a physician as neurologist, and this comprehensive collection of clinical photographs exemplifies this facet of his work. The book is carefully arranged with sections on the head and neck, the limbs, the muscles and involuntary movements, followed by chapters on systemic neurological diseases, endocrine disorders and abnormalities of posture and gait. The third part of the book deals with conditions which render a patient helpless in varying degrees, then with hysterical manifestations and finally there is a most useful and salutary chapter on neurological disorders due to treatment.

The photographs are accompanied by lucid and succinct descriptions, penetrating clinical observations obviously based on personal experience, scholarly historical notes and some excellent examples of the author's mordant wit and attractive philosophy, and it is in character that the book is dedicated to the memory of a Pembrokeshire country doctor. Dr. Spillane writes as he speaks, and reading this text takes the reviewer back into many a hall where he has listened to the author with considerable pleasure.

Obviously in a collection of photographs some are more telling than others, and one or two pictures of common conditions such as Parkinsonism, thyrotoxicosis and hypothyroidism are disappointing. These are however usually duplicated and more striking pictures are seen under the appropriate chapter headings. Conversely the rarities are excellently photographed, with particularly good examples of scleroderma, facial hemiatrophy and infantile hemiplegia, and the collections showing ophthalmoplegia, neuropathies and cranio-vertebral anomalies are outstanding. There is also a general dynamic quality about the photography lacking in many other collections. Occasionally a photograph raises an intriguing question. Why, for example, in no 345, does the syringomyelic patient appear to have gynaecomastia?

This is a fascinating and unique collection and although written with the medical student in mind will be eagerly consulted by all interested in the art and science of clinical neurology.

A. BARHAM CARTER