

that an icterogenic agent had been introduced during the course of some type of inoculation.

There were seven men who developed hepatitis within 200 days of arsenotherapy, and 15 cases following transfusion. In addition to these two types of transmission of hepatitis, which have been described frequently in recent years, there was evidence that an icterogenic agent had been injected into 12 other men during several other procedures.

Six patients had undergone surgical operation 31 to 151 days previously. These patients had all received intravenous "Pentothal sodium" as an anæsthetic, and the suggestion is made that an icterogenic agent was introduced from the syringe which had not been sterilized satisfactorily. The cases listed above as following transfusion also had had "Pentothal" injections, so unless the same batch of transfusion serum or plasma was used for all the patients it would be difficult to detect the causative factor.

Four patients developed hepatitis 64 to 113 days after intramuscular injection of penicillin, and two after repeated venepunctures.

This article draws attention once more to the need for care and attention to proper sterilization of syringes and needles in clinics and hospitals where large numbers of injections and bleedings are performed. F. O. MACCALLUM.

Reprinted from "Bulletin of Hygiene," Vol. 20, No. 11, 1945.

Reviews.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF REGIONAL ANATOMY. Sixth Edition, complete in one volume. By E. B. Jamieson, M.D. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. Pp. xii + 320. Price 75 shillings.

This book contains 320 pages of coloured illustrations of Regional Anatomy, embodying 361 actual illustrations. It is divided into 7 Sections illustrating respectively the Central Nervous System, The Head and Neck, The Abdomen, The Pelvis, The Thorax, The Upper Limb and the Lower Limb, and these Sections may be had separately if desired.

The work had its origin in Dr. Jamieson's blackboard diagrams illustrating his lectures in Edinburgh for many years, and the illustrations chosen in the book bear witness to his long experience in teaching students. The colours show the diagrams off well, the pointers are accurately placed, and there is a complete Index by which structures can be traced in different illustrations. The author, publishers and printers are entitled to take great credit for this fine production coming from a famous school of anatomy.

We recommend this book very confidently to Military Hospital Library Committees and to Service Medical Officers generally. D. C. B.

SYMPOSIUM ON NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISEASES. Reprinted by the United States Office of War Information from *The Medical Clinics of North America* for January, 1945. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London.

This collection of reviews and case-studies is one of a series of symposia on subjects of recent or topical interest. The writers are drawn from the teaching staffs of Chicago and Philadelphia hospitals and the articles vary from accounts of case demonstrations to reviews which present the results of recent advances in treatment. Little original or controversial matter is included and the result is a stimulating and readable book with no pretensions of completeness or profundity which will be welcome to physicians whose clinical contacts have been limited by war work. Useful reviews are included on peripheral nerve injuries, protrusion of the intervertebral disc, treatment of myasthenia gravis, benign lymphocytic choroiditis, meningitis and acute encephalo-miyelo-radiculoneuritis. Two articles on facial pain and chordotomy review with clarity the present position of surgery in the relief of some forms of intractable pain. In a well-illustrated article Loyal Davis gives some of the results of his long experience of peripheral nerve injuries and refers briefly to the uniformly good results being obtained in causalgia by interruption of the sympathetic innervation of the affected region. When the difficulties which until so recently attended the treatment of this condition are recalled it is felt that more details would have been welcome.

In the field of psychiatric disorders there is a clear account of the practical points to be considered in the use of electro-shock in the out-patient departments of general hospitals. A thoughtful article by Meduna and McCulloch on changes in the modern concept of schizophrenia is purely for the psychiatrist and, unlike the rest of the series, of little interest to the general physician. The term "neuropsychiatric diseases" might have afforded an opportunity for discussion of both neurological and psychiatric aspects of the subjects under review but on the whole, with the exception of some case studies by Sloan, each specialist has looked to his own aspect of the case.

A general trend in a number of the articles is to recommend the non-specific use of large doses of vitamins in a variety of conditions and, in fact, to occupy the patient's time and metabolism with treatment even if there are few specific indications.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF VISUAL LITERATURE, 1939-1944. Compiled by J. F. Fulton, Phebe M. Hoff, and Henrietta T. Perkins. Washington: Prepared by the Committee on Aviation Medicine, Division of Medical Sciences, National Research Council, 1945. Pp. x + 117. Price \$3.00.

A bibliography of visual literature, 1939-1944, compiled by J. F. Fulton, P. M. Hoff and H. T. Perkins, is a useful and welcome addition to the bibliographical lists in ophthalmology. Previously there had been no publication in the English language to take the place of the German *Zentralblatt für Ophthalmologie*, and the need of such a source during the late war in which visual problems attained such widespread military importance led the British Air Ministry to request assistance of the United States Office of Scientific Research and Development in Washington, and of Yale University, in the compilation of a classified bibliography covering all literature on vision that might have relevance in military operations. The work under review is the result and, although by no means a complete index to the ophthalmic literature during the war years, in its special field it should be of great value to the research worker and also to the Service ophthalmologist. It is issued as Publication No. 11 of the Historical Library, Yale Medical Library, and distributed by Charles C. Thomas of 301-327, East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A., at the price of three dollars.

THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF RECTAL SURGERY. Third edition. By William B. Gabriel, M.S., F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1945. Pp. lx + 432. Price 45s. net.

The first edition of this work was cordially received in 1932; seven years have passed since the last edition was issued. In these seven years, thinks the author, there has been not only a considerable increase in the knowledge of rectal diseases but also a much greater interest in rectal surgery. There can be little doubt of the truth of these assertions.

The work is entirely comprehensive. While the author expresses his own individuality he has not failed to draw upon the views and experience both of his colleagues at St. Mark's Hospital and of workers elsewhere. The anatomy of the ano-rectal region, to which much attention has recently been directed, is fully dealt with and embellished with excellent diagrams. A new chapter on proctitis has been added.

The section on carcinoma of the rectum occupies nearly one-quarter of the volume; in treatment the author very clearly reviews the various operative alternatives possible.

Little can be commented upon in a work which is so complete and so well accepted. Some new illustrations have been added to a volume which was already well illustrated, and these include quite a proportion of beautiful coloured plates. The illustrations depicting operative procedures are particularly clear and helpful. This is a book which no one at all interested in rectal surgery can afford to be without; it is altogether admirable.

KETTLE'S PATHOLOGY OF TUMOURS. Third Edition. Revised by W. G. Barnard, F.R.C.P., and A. H. T. Robb-Smith, M.A.Oxon., M.D.Lond. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1945. Pp. viii + 318. Illustrations 191. Price 21s. net.

All our officers who studied pathology as a special subject at the R.A.M. College before the war are familiar with Kettle's Pathology of Tumours. They will be interested to learn that a new edition has now appeared and will be glad to know that, although Kettle is no longer with us, his book lives to maintain the traditions of a great teacher.

As is well known, the purpose of this book is to provide a manual for students free from a mass of detail but at the same time embodying those facts generally accepted in the teaching of pathology. In such a complex subject as the pathology of tumours it is by no means an easy task to simplify the topic. But Kettle had this gift and in his writings imparted his knowledge in a free and easy style. Although many changes have been made in the new edition the present authors have been successful in maintaining the style so characteristic of the original author.

During the intervening years since the appearance of the second edition many advances have been made in our knowledge of the pathology of tumours and it is fitting that a third edition should now be published.

When the R.A.M. College again assumes its role as the centre of medical instruction in the Army the new edition of this excellent manual will play its part in the teaching of pathology for, as in the past, this book can thoroughly be recommended.

MANUAL OF CLINICAL MYCOLOGY (Military Medical Manuals, National Research Council of U.S.A.). Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1945. Pp. 348, including an appendix of mycological methods, formulæ for treatment, and an index.

Few of us know much about moulds or the infections they cause. The necessary information is all here, beautifully set out—as all these manuals are. The book can be commended without reserve.

THE CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. A Manual of the American Public Health Association. Published by the Office of War Information. Fifth Review, 1945.

Condensed notes on the methods of control of 71 infectious diseases are given in about 150 pages, suitable for quick reference and fully indexed. The booklet has the approval of the United States Public Health Service, and is convenient to carry, measuring 8 by 4½ inches. After reference to this booklet, any medical officer faced with an outbreak of communicable disease could be satisfied that he had omitted none of the usual measures of control. The text was agreed with the medical staff of the Ministry of Health in the case of certain diseases which may occur in the United Kingdom, but it is a little surprising to find cholera, yellow fever and plague included in these, while food-poisoning, scabies, common cold, impetigo and pneumonia are not. Although based primarily on the United States infectious diseases occurring in any part of the world are generally included.

The booklet is an authoritative and comprehensive summary of present-day preventive measures adopted for individual infectious diseases, which, together with its small bulk, recommends it for inclusion among the few books one can carry in the field.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE AND TOXICOLOGY. Eighth Edition. By John Glaister, J.P., D.M.D., F.R.S.Ed. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd. Pp. 691. Price 30s. Postage 8d. home.

Glaister's book needs no introduction to our readers who will be interested to learn the eighth edition has now appeared. Since it was last reviewed in these columns the book has undergone many changes and a number of additional illustrations have been included. The author states he had to overcome many difficulties in publishing this edition during war: but we have no hesitation in saying that his efforts have been well rewarded, for the book has been extremely well reproduced.

Forensic medicine is a subject that fascinates the student, consequently the teacher needs to worry lest he lectures to vacant benches. His subject is too engrossingly interesting. But in the days of stern practice that follow academic life medico-legal problems occur infrequently and points of detail that were so vivid in the mind of the undergraduate are apt to recede. In addition, medico-legal problems have the habit of presenting themselves suddenly and vary enormously in character. For these reasons it is sound policy for every practitioner to have ready at hand a book on medical jurisprudence and toxicology to which he can refer one that will give him up-to-date facts clearly expressed and quickly available. Here we have such a volume.

In the latest edition the author has shown a wise choice in the additional material he has included. Special mention might be made of the inclusion of the Cremation Procedure in England and Scotland, a subject to which reference requires frequently to be made; also such conditions as crush injuries and the effects of blast, of which we have acquired fresh knowledge during the war.

In the section on toxicology all the poisons likely to be met with receive attention. The recently introduced insecticides and insect repellents are, however, not yet included. But perhaps this is hardly to be expected since they have been used so far only by the armed forces. No doubt they will be mentioned in the next edition by which time experience will have been gained of their employment in the hands of all and sundry.

In general this is a most useful book and the significance of it having reached its eighth edition requires no comment. It can be recommended for the library of every military hospital and certainly will be a valuable acquisition to the armamentarium of all Army pathologists.

J R Army Med Corp first published as 10/136/jamc-86:02-11 on 11 Feb 1946. Downloaded from <http://mlin.ingentahealth.com/> on September 28, 2023 by guest. Protected by copyright.