

Reviews

RESUSCITATION AND ANÆSTHESIA FOR WOUNDED MEN. By Harry K. Beecher, A.M., M.D. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. Pp. 161. Illustrated. Price £2.

This book is clearly the outcome of the author's practical experience in resuscitation and anæsthesia for battle casualties.

It depicts very clearly the psychological, clinical and physiological changes, which may occur in the recently wounded, and on this basis describes the methods necessary to effectively counteract these conditions. The book contains in detail most of the lessons in the resuscitative treatment of the wounded man learned during the recent war.

The final section on anæsthesia for the wounded is sound but such dogmatisms as "Ether is the choice in the seriously wounded" will not find universal agreement.

Dr. Beecher's book is an important contribution to the current literature on War Surgery.

K. F. S.

EMERGENCY SURGERY—PART III. By Hamilton Bailey assisted by N. M. Matheson. John Wright & Sons Ltd. To be published in 5 parts.

This Part III, of 165 pages, deals with the emergencies arising from affections of the rectum and anus and male and female genito-urinary tracts; and includes chapters on abdominal emergencies in the tropics, post-operative complications—fæcal fistulæ and phlebothrombosis. The text and illustrations are as helpful and instructive as in the previous parts and editions of this valuable publication.

A. G. H.

OSTEOPATHY AND MANIPULATION. By James Cyriax. Crosby Lockwood & Son Ltd.

An easily read manual which explains clearly the present claims of osteopaths and chiropractors: and discusses fairly to what degree these claims are, or are not, substantiated.

The author's aim is to present the facts without *bias*, so that an interested layman can make up his own mind. He makes the sound proposal that orthodox medicine should recognize the value of manipulative therapeutics—which in future should be taught to graduates of a recognized body of medical auxiliaries, such as chartered Physiotherapists.

A. G. H.

CASUALTY FAKING. By Ernest James Ward. British Red Cross Society. Price 4s.

This is a small handbook, costing 4s., by Mr. E. J. Ward of the City of London Branch of British Red Cross Society, giving full guidance and adequate illustrations of the art of faking casualties and wounds. With the aid of a few sticks of grease paint, a bit of putty, some adhesive plaster and a few odds and ends, instruction and practice in first aid can be made very much more natural and interesting.

A small handbook of great interest and value to any whose duties or inclinations lead them to the teaching and demonstration of first aid.

A. G. H.

ANATOMICAL ATLAS FOR THE STUDENT. By Dorothy L. Holland, S.R.N., S.C.M., D.N. Nursing Mirror. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A handy record of information given in coloured diagrams which would otherwise be obtained from blackboard diagrams and wall charts.

It is always difficult to decide how much to include in these diagrams for elementary students, but a number of points will give rise to some confusion, e.g. the peculiar X-shaped attachments figured of hamstrings and gastrocnemius, with an enclosure suggesting a patella behind as well as in front of the knee (fig. 2, page i); the aorta on the right side of the vertebral column (fig. 1, page v); the absence of any lymphatic glands in the chest (fig. 5, page v); and the duodenum opening into the colon (fig. 1, page iii).

It might be preferable to colour the soft palate (fig. 3, page iii, and fig. 1, page iv) the same as the tongue; and to avoid the impression given in these two diagrams, that the œsophagus forms a continuous blue tube from the palate across or through the pink pharynx. The section through the heart (fig. 3, page v) would be more easily comprehended if the portion of the lines, showing the blood stream from left ventricle to aorta, were omitted where the stream passes behind the blue pulmonary artery. It is only in the older age-groups that the male prostate is large enough to cause hypertrophy of the male bladder wall, to three times the thickness in the female (figs. 1 and 5, page viii).

These slight inconsistencies are unavoidable in blackboard diagrams, but would be better absent from a permanent record designed for later study.

If these are avoided in subsequent editions, the atlas will be found to be a valuable asset for nurse students and nursing orderlies.

A. G. H.

BENNETT'S MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACY FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS. Fifth Edition. By Reginald R. Bennett, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., revised by H. G. Rolfé, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. London: H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1950. Pp. 276. Price 16s.

This is a guide to the British Pharmacopœia, materia medica and pharmacy. It contains much that is required for trade examinations in the Army, definitions, notes on plant constituents, weights and measures, dosage tables and notes on incompatibility. Its convenient size will recommend it to candidates preparing for examination and for subsequent reference use.

J. B.