the present presentation, apart from the extension of dilution which could be covered by the original presentations also.

Most workers in India appear to follow the original plan of dilution, without extending the dilution and without excluding the titration zone.

S. D. S. G.

THE AMERICAN ILLUSTRATED MEDICAL DICTIONARY.—By W. A. Newman Dorland, A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S. Twenty-second Edition. 1951. Published by W. B. Saunders and Co., 7, Grape Street, London, W.C.2. Pp. 1736. Thumb index with 720 illustrations including 48 plates. Price, 70s.

THIS book is bigger than its predecessor in the size of the page, the number of pages and, of course, in the number of terms treated.

The new terms concern mostly the newer drugs and compounds. Some are in replacement of the old terms: *Macacus rhesus*, for instance, is now *Macaca rhesus* (probably more correct etymologically but not necessary now when Rh and *Macacus rhesus* have been talked about for over 10 years: The reviewer does not intend making use of it in his writings).

The number of illustrations has decreased (from 880 to 720) but most of those now given are larger and more useful, specially for muscles, arteries, nerves, etc. The exclusion of the portraits, however, is a serious loss: They brought the seeker face to face with the expounders, the old Masters in Medicine, and their artistic value was not inconsiderable.

Many old terms have been removed. The end of C and beginning of D may provide an example: (1) From the last 10 terms beginning with C in the 21st edition only 8 remain in the 22nd edition. (2) The 4th term under D in the 21st edition is the 6th term in the 22nd edition.

The binding in the reviewer's copy was faulty due probably to a weakness in the spine of a heavy book of pages of large size, without special support.

A neat thumb index adds to the convenience in consulting the dictionary.

A very useful publication which has become an institution.

S. D. S. G.

PHYSICAL DIAGNOSIS.—By Ralph H. Major, M.D. Fourth Edition. 1951. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Pp. xi plus 446. Illustrated. Price, 32s. 6d.

PHYSICAL examination is essentially personal and has to be learnt, as an art, from clinical teachers. Many find this inadequate either from a paucity of material or a dissatisfaction with the explanations of their masters, many of whom, it must be admitted, are much more interested in disease and treatment; for them this book is written. A great deal of the descriptive matter is taken from the firm foundation laid down by the old physicians, led by the French school, notably Laënnec, who conducted their examinations, mainly of the chest, with an almost religious fervour and then checked and rechecked their findings by long daily visits to the post-mortem room. Let it not be thought that Professor Major worships only at ancient shrines; in the section on the heart the murmurs are illustrated by phonocardiograms. Perhaps this is the least satisfactory part of the book, as it has not caught up with the recent revival of physical examination, following the tremendous advances in the last few years; we get no description of the difference between a right and left ventricular impulse or of palpation of the pulmonary artery, both vital steps in diagnosis, but there is full account of percussion to determine the size of the heart, an almost worthless procedure. For the more easily accessible parts of the body, there are short descriptions both of the differential points in diagnosis and of the diseases, in which they are likely to occur,

illustrated by beautifully reproduced figures, many of which are from original papers. Those of us, who feel that the actual examination of our patients is getting a little perfunctory, will find in this volume a stimulation towards greater care and by the able descriptions not only of the signs but also of the history of the appreciation of their value, will realize how much further we can get towards an exact diagnosis without a battery of expensive tests, whose use is so often merely an indication of our laziness.

R. L.

CLINICAL HEART DISEASE.—By Samuel A. Levine, M.D., F.A.C.P. Fourth Edition. 1951. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Pp. xiv plus 556. Illustrated. Price, 54s. net

SINCE the war there has been a spate of books on what might be called the New Cardiology and anyone interested in this subject will want to possess at least one. They all offer first rate expositions of the subject but in each, according to the temperament and personality of the writer, is the approach rather different. The would-be purchaser then looks to reviews to find out if any individual book is likely to be attuned to his way of thinking. What sort of book then have we here?

Dr. Levine is an elder statesman of the Boston school of cardiology and this is reflected in the quiet style, which is clearly meant to be read unhurriedly, at one's leisure. There are no pictures, diagrams, nor lists and tables to do our thinking for us, nor are there any skiagrams as quick short-cuts to diagnosis; there are only a few paragraph headings and no references. The style is of an essay quality, but with a slight conversational tone to it, well larded with clinical illustrations—not full length case histories full of irrelevant matter and smart-Aleck investigations—just the simple essentials to illustrate the point. We do not get much detail, we can read the necessary section, the known facts are carefully presented to us, our minds are stimulated and then it is up to us to do the rest: those who want spoon-feeding should go elsewhere. But for the mind that is not avid for pure materialistic facts but seeks rather to develop its reasoning powers and broaden its outlook towards the day to day problems of cardiology, will find here all it seeks. Not that there are not plenty of factual descriptions, but they are not always to be found where expected, but this doesn't matter, as there is an excellent full index.

Apart from the usual subjects we get charming chapters on medicolegal aspects, bronchial and other factors in dyspnoea and the significance of the systolic murmur. The newer heart operations and cortisone for rheumatic fever are mentioned, to keep us up to date, anti-coagulant therapy is wholeheartedly recommended but the main stress of the parts on treatment are on the simple measures, which make all the difference to the daily life of the cardiac patient. The perplexed question of the relationship of electrocardiography to cardiology is solved by devoting 200 pages to it. At first sight this might seem too much, but on reading this section it is clear that the author, who is really giving us an epitome of his own lifelong experience, cannot leave this controversial subject to the monographs of others, but must be our guide here also. For the senior student, the aspiring physician and the fully fledged cardiologist this book cannot but be an inspiration to try to emulate the approach to medicine of its author.

R. L.

MANAGEMENT OF CELIAC DISEASE.—By Sidney Valentine Haas, M.D., and Merrill P. Haas, M.D. 1951. J. B. Lippincott Company, London. Pp. x plus 188, with 12 illustrations. Price, 40s.

IT is hard to find what this book is about. From the preface we gather that there will be a critical review of the literature followed by the methods of treatment used by the authors, evolved from 'hundreds