The authors are to be congratulated on the able manner in which they have dealt with this part of the subject.

A whole chapter is devoted to cerebral arteriography. Opinions about the late effects of thorotrast are divided. The number of accidents have been described recently, and animal experiments have shown definite degenerative changes in the liver and spleen. It has also quite conclusively been shown that this material appears to be retained indefinitely in the reticulo-endothelial system causing a blockage of the cells here. The radio-activity of thorotrast retained in this way is also a matter which deserves serious consideration. We personally have not had the courage to advocate this method, though arteriography in other situations is quite easily done by the injection of per-abrodil or similar preparations.

The latter portion of the book deals with lesions of the spine and spinal cord with a last chapter on neuropathic disturbances. A very complete bibliography and index are provided.

A very welcome feature of this publication is the thorough manner in which the normal anatomy and appearances are treated before describing the variations from the normal.

We cannot speak too highly of the excellence of this work. It will be welcomed alike by the surgeon, neurologist and radiologist.

G. G.

THE PREPARATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PAPERS.—By Sam F. Trelease, Ph.D., and Emma S. Yule, Ph.D. Third Edition. 1936. Baillière, Tindall and Cox, London. Pp. 125. Price, 7s.

This manual is intended for the use of students who are writing articles on scientific or technical subjects. Many of the rules given are based upon recognized authorities, listed in the bibliography at the end of the volume. The book is short, lucid and practical. Anybody, going through it carefully, will learn how to avoid errors, how to present conclusions of his researches in a logical way and how to prepare manuscript and correct galley and page proofs for the printer.

R. C.

SYNOPSIS OF PHYSIOLOGY.—By N. J. Vazifdar, L.M. & S., F.C.P.S., Captain, A.I.R.O. (Retd.). Fourth Edition. 1938. Popular Book Depot, Bombay, 7. Pp. 729 plus xi, with 107 illustrations. Price, Rs. 7-8

The appearance of the fourth edition of the *Synopsis of Physiology* by Dr. Vazifdar shows its popularity and growing demand. The book has been

revised, enlarged and brought up to date. It is a useful compilation in a condensed form, which will serve as a guide for students to revise the subject quickly while preparing for examinations. Certain sections, for instance, that on the nervous system which is very good, have been dealt with in a systematic manner, while the rest of the book refers to various important physiological principles. Brevity being the key-note of the book, a few sections are rather inadequate; this, it is hoped, will receive due attention in the next edition. The usefulness of the book is greatly enhanced by 107 illustrations, many of which are original.

R. C.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF ANATOMY FOR NURSES.—By E. B. Jamieson, M.D. 1938. E. and S. Livingstone, Edinburgh. 62 Plates. Obtainable from Messrs. Butterworth and Company (India), Limited, Calcutta. Price, Rs. 5

This is a selection from the second edition of *Illustrations of Regional Anatomy* by the same author.

It includes 62 plates which, with the exception of four, are identical with those in the above publication. It is bound in the same handy loose leaf method so that any plate may be removed and used under an epidiascope for illustrating a special lecture.

It should be extremely valuable to teachers of anatomy to nurses, for whom it has been produced.

P. A. M.

OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED

The Evolution of Chronic Rheumatism with Treatment to Correspond—The Preventive Clinic as a First Line of Defence.—By R. F. Fox, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.P. 1938. H. K. Lewis and Company, Limited, London. Pp. 26, with 5 text-figures. Price, 2s. 6d.

This is a reprint of a lecture, delivered at Margate, at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health and The Institute of Hygiene, May 1937, which has already been published in the *Journal of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene*.

For those who are interested in the subject of establishing rheumatism clinics, it is convenient to be able to obtain copies in pamphlet form.

The Use of Quinine in Obstetrics.—By Dr. H. P. A. Smit. 1938. Cinchona Instituut. Bureau Tot bevoorderen Van Het Kinine-Gebruik. V. Limburg Strumstraat 43. Postbus 215, Amsterdam-W. Pp. 20.

This is a pamphlet issued by the Cinchona Institute, Amsterdam; its scope is as the title implies. It emphasizes the fact that quinine is *not* an abortifacient, but is a useful prophylactic.

Abstracts from Reports

TUBERCULOSIS IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS OF THE EAST. (FROM THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION, HEALTH ORGANIZATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. BULL. INT. UNION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS, 1937)

For the last ten years attention has often been drawn to the increase in the frequency of tuberculosis in the Far East. However, Japan is the only country for which there are accurate statistical data, as elsewhere only estimations and tentative enquiries have been made. In the list of the causes of death, twenty years ago, tuberculosis occupied the sixth or seventh place. To-day, in a number of eastern countries, it comes third; in Japan tuberculosis comes second and in the Philippines this disease even heads the list.

Obviously, this does not mean that the incidence of tuberculosis has increased, in absolute figures.

Improved prophylaxis with regard to diseases such as smallpox, cholera, malaria and typhoid has resulted in a lesser death rate from these infections, so that tuberculosis has become conspicuous. Another cause for this relatively increased incidence is to be found in better diagnostic methods and a more accurate recognition of the various forms of the disease. For instance, tuberculosis of infants and children, which was formerly supposed to be uncommon in Asia, is, in fact, fairly widespread.

In several countries, enquiries have been made in order to determine more accurately the incidence of latent and manifest cases of tuberculosis, as well as the modes of infection. These enquiries, which are difficult to carry out, have been so far fragmentary and do not justify any general statement, nor a comparison with the data collected in Europe. One gets from them a definite impression that in a number of countries tuberculosis is already one of the most