

Reviews.

System of Medicine.—By SIR CLIFFORD ALBUTT, K.C.B.; and H. D. ROLLESTON. Vol. IV, Pt. 1. London, 1908. Macmillan & Co., Ltd.

In the new edition of this magnificent *System* the fourth volume has been divided into two. The sections on the nose, pharynx and larynx which were condensed into only 200 pages in the first edition have now been expanded into a whole Volume which will appear as part ii of Volume IV.

In view of these changes in Volume IV and also in Volume II it might have been arranged to renumber the volumes, though that after all is but a minor matter.

The present part 1 of Volume IV contains disease of the liver, kidneys, pancreas and the ductless glands and is a very different book from the old Volume IV. Among the new articles is one by Dr. Keith on hepatoptosis, another by Dr. Wm. Hunter on delayed chloroform poisoning. Dr. Herringham, of "Barts" deals with pylephlebitis and multiple abscesses of the liver, and an excellent new article on biliary cirrhosis is contributed by Morley Fletcher.

The chapters on infantilism and œdema are very good and the same may be said of those on obesity and adiposis dolorosa by Dyce Duckworth. Prof. Rose Bradford has a long and important article on nephritis and Dr. Dickenson treats of albuminuria.

The whole volume is good and is of great value for the practitioner who wishes to keep himself informed of the recent advances in medical knowledge.

Legal Responsibility of the Drunkard.—By H. NORMAN BARNETT, F.R.C.S. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1908. Pp. 64. Price, 2s. 6d.

WE can well agree with Mr. Barnett when he says that a book dealing with the legal responsibility of the drunkard from the medical standpoint has been much needed by both the medical and legal professions.

The present little book aims at showing how far the alcoholic criminal is responsible and we can say that Mr. Barnett has well succeeded in his aim.

No doubt drunkenness is at first a vicious habit, which later on develops into a disease, the difficult question to answer is in the case of borderland cases. Legal tribunals are at last realising to some extent, that in dealing with a chronic alcoholic they are in contact with a man who should be treated chiefly in a remedial way. The Act of 1898 was really the first useful legislation on this subject. The weak point however in this Act is the chronic drunkard. It is necessary that he shall be sentenced to treatment in a state reformatory whether guilty of an indictable offence or not and with or

without his consent. This sentence of imprisonment for treatment should be long enough to give the wretch's diseased nerve-tissue an opportunity of rest.

We commend this little book to the notice of our readers. Cases of this kind are not common in practice in India, but they do occur and a perusal of this little book will greatly help the medical officer who has such to deal with.

A Manual of Diseases of the Eye.—By CHARLES H. MAY, M.D., New York; and CLAUD WORTH, F.R.C.S. (Eng.) Second Edition. Pages XIII and 400. Illustrations 336, including 22 coloured plates. Demy 8vo, 10s. 6d. net. Baillière, Tindall and Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, London.

A MANUAL on a special subject which requires the publication of a second edition in two years, owing to its popularity scarcely requires a lengthy notice. Few alterations have been made in the text. Although extraction of cataract in the capsule has been the subject of much controversy since the first edition was published and that not alone in India, yet no mention of it is made in the text.

The coloured plates are still an excellent feature of the work.

For a concise and practical description of the subject the book can be thoroughly recommended to the student.

Index Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology, Trematoda and Trematode Diseases.—By C. W. STILES and HASSALL WASHINGTON. Government Printing Office, 1908.

THE object of the catalogue is to place in permanent form the card-catalogues of the Zoological Division of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry. It is an Index and not a treatise. We have therefore done enough in calling attention to its existence. It is a wonderfully complete index of the subjects.

Green's Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine and Surgery.—Vol. IX. Rhinoliths to Thermotoxis. Edinburgh and London: Wm. Green and Sons.

THIS is the penultimate volume of this huge Dictionary and Encyclopedia of Medicine and Surgery. We have frequently called attention to the subject-matter of this monumental work. The present volume is quite equal to its eight predecessors and contains among much else up-to-date articles on syphilis and small-pox and notable articles on tabes, and spinal cord diseases. To keep this up-to-date the Editor Dr. J. W. Ballantyne announces the preparation of a *Quinquennium of Medicine*, which will no doubt be very useful and necessary.

Hygienic Laboratory of the United States.—Bulletin No. 40.

THE last published of these bulletins contains four papers, all by Stokes, who in the case of the last is assisted by Goldberger. The first is on the occurrence of a proliferating cestode larva in a man living in Florida, which has been

named *Sparganum proliferum*, and which is considered as identical with a parasite described by Ijima in Japan. In the Florida case there were thousands of nodules situated in the subcutaneous tissue, in intermuscular strata; there were large masses in the abdominal cavity; the liver and spleen were enlarged. Most of the nodules under the skin were of the size and shape of grains of rice. They were little cysts containing one to three larval worms, the largest of which measured 12 mm. long. Their shape was irregular owing to the formation of buds, which possibly then separated forming fresh individuals. The larvæ were unattached and destitute of hooklets or suckers.

The second paper is the record of a re-examination of the original specimen of *Filaria restiformis* described by Leidy in 1880. It was supposed to have come out of the urethra of a man of 50. The conclusion is that it is not a filaria, and was probably not a parasite of man at all.

Two new nematodes are next described, one from the pectoral muscle of an African partridge, and the other from the cæcum of calves from the Philippines.

The last article gives the result of a re-examination of the original specimen of *Tenia solium abietina* described by Weinland in 1858. Four out of five helminthologists who examined the specimen, considered it to be a *Tenia saginata*, and it is accordingly classified as a doubtful subspecies *Tenia saginata abietina*. These valuable and beautifully illustrated bulletins should be far more widely known than is at present the case.

Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs and Kidney.—By ROBERT HOLMES, A.M., M.D.; AND HARLOW BROOKS, M.D. Published by W. B. Saunders & Co. Pp. 356. Illustrations 292.

In their preface, the authors do not profess that the work is a complete one, this being impossible in a book of this size. They have attempted to devote the greatest amount of space and the fullest description to those conditions and methods which have appeared to them to be of the greatest importance or to those which, being of recent development, may be presumed to be less familiar to the practitioner. In pursuance of this policy we find considerable space devoted to endoscopy, cystoscopy and catheterisation of the ureters. Examination of the urine is dismissed shortly, while the part describing examination of the urethral exudate and of the semen is fuller. There are complete useful chapters on the treatment of nephritis, on uræmia, tuberculosis, stone and tumour of the kidney. The chapters on prostatic disease are interesting. Gonorrhœa is connected with cancer of the prostate thus: "The gonorrhœa leaves behind a chronic posterior urethritis, from this a chronic prostatitis results by infection through the prostatic ducts, careful study

of many sections from 58 cases of prostatic enlargement has convinced the writers that the hypertrophy is really inflammatory in origin, the consequence of this infection, and they are equally satisfied that cancer was present in from 5 to 10 % of the prostates referred to, and that it followed the inflammatory sclerosis. Holding as they do this view, we do not think that they recommend with sufficient emphasis the removal of the enlarged prostate in place of the entry upon catheter life."

In the consideration of stone, there is that tendency to provincialism which is to be found all the world over in medical affairs. The experience of the authors is here admittedly scanty, and they rely for methods of treatment on that of Chismore, who performed lithopaxy 154 times, and their recommendations are as follows. One and a half to three ounces of a four per cent. solution of cocaine are injected into the bladder. This means from half to one drachm of cocaine, and it is to be noted in this connection that Morell says that any quantity of cocaine exceeding half a grain cannot be applied to a mucous membrane without the risk of alarming symptoms arising. If this quantity does not give satisfactory anæsthesia, it is run out and fresh cocaine solution applied. For the crushing a lithotrite with a channeled stem is advised; that is, it combines the uses of lithotrite, and evacuator, a device which must weaken the instrument and render it useless for the crushing of a large hard stone, and indeed that the instrument is one of little power is evident from the fact that it is fitted with three separate devices for crushing the stone, firstly, a handicap; secondly, a ratchet and pinion; and thirdly, if these fail, a hammer. To Indian Surgeons accustomed to a simple instrument powerful enough to crush any stone, which it is large enough to grasp, the uselessness of such complex arrangements is evident. It surely must be conceded that in these days when the facilities for the diffusion of medical knowledge are so great, no author can be excused for failing to supplement his own experience, in any direction in which it is slight, by that of those, in whatever part of the world they practise, whose experience is the greatest, a six-inch incision for suprapubic lithotomy is certainly as a routine measure unnecessarily large.

The perineal route is recommended for prostatectomy in most cases, and here we certainly think that a reference might have been made to Freyer's figures of the suprapubic route. In operating for cancer of the penis, there is no reference to the advisability of removing the whole lymphatic drainage area in the groins; and in our experience it is, when operating for the radical cure of hydrocele by inversion of the sac, not sufficient to merely pull the testis through the hole in the sac wall. It will slip back through the aperture, unless the sac wall is sutured back. The book is well and