

Reviews.

SELECTED PAPERS ON INJURIES AND DISEASES OF BONE.—By Sir William Ireland de C. Wheeler, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., F.A.C.S. (Hon.). London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1928. Pp. xx plus 148, with 100 figures in the text. Price, 10s. 6d. net.

THIS book is a reprint of papers which have appeared in various journals. The first four sections are a synopsis of a series of lectures on fractures of the bones of the lower extremity which were given for the University of London at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and are an excellent epitome of the most modern methods. The results which can be obtained in cases of mal-union without open operation by refracture and powerful extension are well illustrated by the cases described, in two of which secondary displacement occurred owing to the limb having been actually over-elongated, leaving a gap between the two ends of the fractured bone though the alignment was perfect. To convert a shortening of $3\frac{1}{2}$ " of three months standing into a lengthening of $\frac{1}{2}$ " is testimony to the efficiency of the extension methods employed. The remaining papers deal with a variety of subjects, a modification of Albee's operation for fixation of the spine, with which the author has had considerable success, though he is in agreement with the general view that these operations are not indicated in children; a method of approaching the sacro-iliac joint without disturbing the posterior sacro-iliac ligament and two papers on bone grafting which contain many valuable observations and hints, to mention only the most important. All the papers in this little volume are of interest especially to post-graduate students and candidates for higher examinations.

W. L. H.

TREATMENT BY MANIPULATION.—By A. G. Timbrell Fisher, M.C., F.R.C.S. (Eng.). Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., 1928. Pp. xii plus 200, with 62 illustrations. Price, 9s. net.

THE first edition of this book under the title "Manipulative Surgery" was a welcome contribution to surgical literature and the appearance of a second edition so soon is evidence that at last the medical profession has begun to take an interest in this neglected branch of surgery. Bone setters thrive on cases which have been improperly treated in the first instance and if all students were instructed in the principles laid down in this book, the stream of cases which drift into the hands of quacks would soon diminish and dry up. A vast literature exists dealing with the pathology and treatment of joints stiffened or ankylosed as the result of disease or major injury, but very little attention has been paid to minor injuries and their results. Dismissed in the text-books with a brief paragraph, usually enjoining rest and fixation followed by passive movement, it is no wonder that the practitioner is at a loss what to do when this line of treatment leaves a stiff and painful joint liable to give way suddenly from muscular weakness. If he follows the traditional teaching he will probably immobilise the joint again, thus aggravating the symptoms and losing his patient who will eventually be cured by someone else breaking down the adhesions which were the cause of the trouble. The pathology of these cases is well set out in the opening chapters of the book and the detailed directions for manipulating each joint are preceded by an account of its anatomy, range of movements and the usual indications for this form of treatment. The value of the book to practitioners would be much enhanced by a short chapter on the treatment of sprains and contusions of joints when seen soon after the injury, the period when prevention of adhesions depends on the line adopted.

In the present edition the sections on osteopathy, tennis elbow, chronic arthritis and the lesions of the sacro-iliac joint have been enlarged and many case-

histories added, too many perhaps, for some of them contain too little detail to be of much instructional value. The book can be heartily recommended both to practitioners and students, but to those who have not had much experience in orthopaedic work in this country it is as well to add a word of warning, lest they be led into disaster. The stiff joints most often met with are due to septic processes in or around the joint or to chronic arthritis of gonorrhœal or infective origin of long standing, which have led to profound intra- and extra-articular changes. The greatest caution is necessary in manipulating such joints, as acute inflammation is very likely to be lighted up by forced movement and the restoration of mobility must often be sacrificed in order to ensure a stable limb capable of weight-bearing. The section on "pros and cons of treatment of chronic arthritis by manipulation" on p. 35 should be read and pondered before tackling such cases. Considerable experience is necessary to decide in which cases the attempt to restore movement is likely to succeed.

W. L. H.

THE EYE.—By C. W. Rutherford, M.D., F.A.C.S. First Edition. New York and London: D. Appleton & Company, 1928. Pp. 404, with 12 original coloured plates and 305 black and white figures.

THE author states in his preface that the work is primarily intended for the general practitioner and student of medicine and that he has endeavoured to combine the advantages of a work of reference and of a teaching text. The arrangement of the book is such as to facilitate ready reference. The table of contents is full as also the index, and the subject matter covers practically the whole field of ophthalmology as dealt with in the larger text-books. In the reviewer's opinion the actual amount of information given under any one head is hardly what one would expect in a book of reference, but as a teaching text it undoubtedly fills a position in ophthalmic literature which is somewhat exceptional. The book should be of special value to the teacher who wishes to present his subject completely without unduly labouring certain sections to the neglect of others and who desires to give a survey of his subject in perspective, without taking his hearers into channels too remote from practical clinical considerations. In some respects it resembles a compilation of grind notes in ophthalmology for students and junior post-graduates rather than a text-book in the ordinary sense of the word. In style it is terse, controversial points are not laboured, and references to literature are few. The arrangement is convenient. Each sub-division of the eye is dealt with separately as regards its essential anatomy and its diseases, with the investigation and treatment of the latter including operative procedures. Chapters VII and VIII deal briefly with special methods of investigation, namely, ophthalmoscopy and perimetry and fall into their proper places in the text so that the reader is familiarised with these methods before their application is discussed. The teaching ought to prove acceptable to centres of ophthalmic education in India as the views expressed are in the main very similar to those taught in this country. Of the operative procedures described perhaps more than a fair share of space is devoted to those for ectropion and entropion. This being so, eye surgeons in the East will be disappointed to find no mention of Webster's operation. The plates are excellent, but as in most books on the eye some of the figures are indifferent, e.g., figure 188. The repeated mention of White's ointment may perhaps puzzle readers who are not acquainted with its composition. It is a much weaker preparation of Hydrarg. perchloride than the ointment popular in India. The author's approval of the discharge of cataract patients after 10 days would not meet the approval of many operators in India, but presumably it is safe practice in America. Transillumination of the globe in negro eyes is said to be difficult. One does not often see a reference to this fact in ordinary works on ophthalmology, but the same difficulty holds in our Indian clinics. Retained foreign bodies and their treatment, a subject which forms the major portion of the chapter on the vitreous, contains a vast amount

of valuable information in a small space. Embryological details are sparse and corneal microscopy is not dealt with. Indian readers might reasonably expect a more prominent mention of epitheliomata of the lids and limbus which are amongst the commonest new growths associated with the eye in this country. Prolapse of the iris is mentioned as an "occasional complication." This perhaps hardly does justice to one of the most serious bugbears of cataract work which occurs in most big operating centres in from 2 to 4% of the cases of cataract extraction. It is perhaps surprising to see mention of such a moot subject, and one so liable to be misunderstood without full explanations, as the non-surgical treatment of cataract. It is not clear why the author advises that yellow oxide should not be used at the same time as dionine. Muscles and refraction are dealt with simply and well. Chapter XIX, the last in the book, is exceptionally interesting and valuable in India just now as, under new legislation in connection with Workmen's Compensation, questions are continually cropping up with regard to degrees of eye injury for which there is no precedent to help the medical witness. It deals with "Industrial injuries, their compensation and the simulation." The statements made therein carry the high authority of the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Ophthalmological Section of the American Medical Association, the report of which was approved by the House of Delegates. The Committee's supplementary report published as recently as 1927, has been followed by the author. Those interested should read this chapter for themselves. It will be sufficient here to quote the following:—"Visual efficiency, industrially considered, is based on three co-ordinating functions or factors which are measurable, and on which percentages may be calculated. These are the acuity of central or macular vision, the field of vision, and the muscle or motor function for maintaining binocular single vision in the field of binocular fixation. Other defects may be present, but they are not measurable." The author proceeds to show how such defects may be expressed in percentages. The advantages of such a system are obvious. A description is given of various tests for malingering and simulation. The book is of convenient size, the print is good and it is well got up and produced. The author is to be congratulated on having brought out on new lines a work which will fill a place of its own in ophthalmic literature and for which many clinical teachers will be indebted to him.

NASAL NEUROLOGY, HEADACHES AND EYE DISORDERS.—By Greenfield Sluder, M.D., F.A.C.S. St. Louis, U. S. A.: The C. V. Mosby Company, 1927. Pp. 428, with 167 illustrations, including 2 coloured plates. Price, \$11.50.

DR. GREENFIELD SLUDER in his book "Nasal Neurology, Headaches and Eye Disorders" has set out to explain certain varieties of nasal disease which have as symptoms:—

- I. Headache,
- II. More or less eye disorders,
- III. Neurological phenomena that are evidently of nasal origin or are controllable by nasal treatment, to wit:—
 - (1) Closure of the frontal sinus without suppuration.
 - (2) Anterior ethmoidal neuralgia of the naso-ciliary nerve.
 - (3) The syndrome of nasal ganglion neurosis.
 - (4) The picture of hyperplastic post-ethmoidal-sphenoidal inflammation.
 - (5) Some neurological phenomena that are apparently not of nasal origin and are controllable by nasal treatment.
 - (6) Orbital phlegmon.

Pain in the head is gone into thoroughly and all the five points for distinguishing a pain due to the closure of the frontal or closure of the anterior ethmoidal cells or affection of the nasal nerve or affections of the nasal ganglion, are given with great care. Apparently some inflammatory condition of the sinuses, either known or unknown to the patient and often difficult of detection by the surgeon is or has been present. The syndrome

of nasal ganglion neuroses is gone into at great length, and Sluder would have us believe that such diverse conditions as writer's cramp, diarrhoea, glossodynia, photophobia, earache due to cancer of the larynx, corneal ulceration, abdominal pain and a host of other conditions may appear as symptoms due in some way to an affection of the nasal ganglion. No satisfactory explanation is, however, given for these various manifestations of disease in this neighbourhood. The ganglion is treated either by painting with 2% silver nitrate or by injections of phenol-alcohol. The injection method, however, has its dangers. The internal maxillary artery is in close relationship with the ganglion and a case is recorded where the carotid had to be ligated for bleeding from this source. Apparently trouble from hæmorrhage is negligible for Sluder says, "The number of bleedings in my experience has been few." Other dangers appear to arise from the alcohol reaching and paralysing the oculomotor, abducens and even the optic nerves, but as Sluder also tells us that "As is well known the anatomy varies in practically every nose" the method strikes one as being fraught with danger.

In dealing with hyperplastic sphenoiditis all the conditions which may result from the implication of the nerves of this neighbourhood are gone into, and the diagnosis, prognosis and the author's operative technique are fully given.

The book is to be regarded as one full of interest and full of ambitious speculation into much that is abstruse in the pathology of the many obscure phenomena described. It is worthy of serious attention and ought to be a stimulus to further research on the subject.

N. J. J.

DISEASES OF THE NOSE, THROAT AND EAR, FOR PRACTITIONERS AND STUDENTS.—Edited by A. Logan Turner, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.S.E. Second Edition. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd., 1927. Pp. 440, with 234 illustrations and 12 plates. Price, 20s. net.

THIS compact text-book deserves the greatest praise. It is well arranged, well balanced, and for a plain statement of the case without embellishment with fads and fancies, is unbeaten. There is not one chapter in this book which is not crammed full of useful information, no undue stress is laid upon any section, and each chapter takes its own place in the picture. The book undoubtedly is the expression of the Edinburgh school of oto-rhino-laryngology, and contains evidence of its latest work. The chapter upon the ear is particularly good and for its size is beyond reproach. One would heartily recommend this book as being something more than an ordinary text-book on the subject.

N. J. J.

Annual Report.

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATISTICS OF THE GOVERNMENT GENERAL HOSPITAL, MADRAS, FOR THE YEAR 1927, BY LT.-COL. E. W. C. BRADFIELD, I.M.S., SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT GENERAL HOSPITAL, MADRAS. MADRAS: GOVERNMENT PRESS, 1928. PRICE, Rs. 9.

THE practice of incorporating short case histories in the annual reports of the Government General Hospital, Madras, makes these publications extremely interesting and the 1927 number is no exception.

Admission and Accommodation.—During the year 66,505 out-patients and 13,158 in-patients were treated at the Government General Hospital, or a daily average of 459.94 out-patients and 531.15 in-patients.