

CLINICAL HEMATOLOGY. A Practical Guide to the Examination of the Blood with Reference to Diagnosis. By JOHN C. DA COSTA, Jr., M.D., Assistant Demonstrator of Clinical Medicine, Jefferson Medical College, Hematologist to the German Hospital. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

PATHOGNOMONIC blood-findings are as yet confined to leucemia, malaria, relapsing fever and filariasis, yet in many conditions the study of the blood adds very important information to that obtained by other methods. This book by its elementary fulness of detail will render such study possible to the many instead of to the specialist only. The working parts of the various kinds of apparatus and their manipulation having been studied minutely, the author plunges, in the first section, into the methods of obtaining the blood, of estimating its alkalinity, specific gravity and hemoglobin, and of counting and staining its cellular elements. The nature and function of normal blood as a whole and departures from the normal fill the second section. The chapter on the leucocytes is at once the most important and the best handled. Leucocytosis is considered as to the absolute increase in the number of white cells and the relative increase of any form of cell; a long list of diseases and drugs which affect the leucocyte-count is appended. Lymphocytosis is attributed to many different conditions, though it is not often marked except in lymphatic leucemia and whooping-cough. Sections follow on the diseases of the blood and the anemias of infancy and childhood, and then a long section is devoted to the detailed study of the blood in appendicitis, cholelithiasis, diabetes, enteric fever, erysipelas, malaria and about sixty other conditions. The Widal reaction is described and figured under enteric fever, the writer regarding as positive a reaction with 1-10 serum, though conservative men abroad and in this country require a 1-40 serum reaction. The recent work of Durham and others on serum reactions in paratyphoid infections is not mentioned.

The colored plates and figures in the text are good enough to whet the appetite for more, and the reading-matter in general is conservative, correct and up-to-date. The book deserves high commendation.