

Book Reviews.

DISLOCATIONS AND JOINT FRACTURES. By FREDERIC J. COTTON, A.M., M.D., First Assistant Surgeon to the Boston City Hospital; Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery in Tufts College Medical School, Boston. With 1201 illustrations, 830 from drawings by the author. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co., 1910.

THIS appearance of a work fully covering the subject of dislocations and joint fractures is justified by the vast progress that has been made within recent years in the diagnosis and treatment of these conditions, which progress may be attributed largely to the employment of the x -rays as an accessory method of diagnosis. Moreover, to quote the author, "injuries to and about joints constitute one of the most doubtful fields of surgery, a field strewn with wrecks,—the products of mistakes and of unavoidable difficulties, prolific in discontent and in resultant actions at law—actions based only too often on unavoidable uncertainty or error." The value of a work of this kind to the general practitioner is obvious, for he is called upon, and should be able, to treat most fractures and dislocations. The author discusses the common types of fracture and luxation, their diagnosis and characteristic x -ray appearances, and describes with the aid of numerous illustrations the methods of reduction and the application of apparatus. The common failures in reduction and the expected complications are carefully detailed, together with the methods of their detection and remedy. After-treatment and prognosis are also fully covered. One of the many admirable features of this book is the fact that of the 1201 illustrations more than two-thirds are from original drawings by the author, whose artistic skill enabled him to make the illustrations integrally a part of the text.

THÉORIE PHYSICO-CHIMIQUE DE LA VIE, ET GÉNÉRATIONS SPONTANÉES. Par STÉPHANE LEDUC, Professor à l'École de Médecine de Nantes. Paris: A. Poinat, 1910.

IN the non-technical language suitable for the general reader the author presents the results of his investigations into the artificial production of life, and an elaborate theory of its chemico-physical origin. He shows how it is possible, by means of the diffusion of liquids, to obtain structures similar to cellular tissues, for example, striated structures indistinguishable from the microscopic appearance of striated muscle, and polypoid forms identical in appearance with those belonging to the lower orders of life. Moreover, by the same process, he is able to reproduce the complicated movements observed in cells during the process of karyokinesis. The subject matter of his thesis is comprised under the separate headings of life and living beings, solutions, electrolytic solutions, colloids, diffusion, and osmosis, periodicity, cohesion, and crystallization, karyokinesis, energy, synthetic biology, osmotic growth and morphogenesis, osmotic phenomena of life and physiogenesis, and evolution and spontaneous generation.

MAMMALIAN ANATOMY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CAT. By ALVIN DAVISON, Ph.D., Ex-Fellow of Princeton University; Professor of Biology in Lafayette College. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1910.

THE issuance of a second edition of this manual is evidence of the growing demand of a knowledge of mammalian anatomy as one of the first requisites for entering upon an intelligent study of medicine, as well as for students of modern psychology, the teachers of physiology in high schools, and the directors of gymnasiums.

THE EXPECTATION OF LIFE OF THE CONSUMPTIVE AFTER SANATORIUM TREATMENT. By NOEL DEAN BARDSWELL, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.S. (Ed.), Medical Superintendent, King Edward VII Sanatorium. Edinburgh, Glasgow, and London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton, 1910.

THE criterion of the value of any method of treatment of a chronic disease must be the ultimate results attained. This is especially so in the case of a disease which, like tuberculosis, tends to repeated relapse even after long periods of quiescence. It is only recently that any systematic investigation of the subsequent histories of patients discharged from sanatoria has been published. This has been done at the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium and is especially valuable—first, because of the long period (twenty-five years) which the investigation covers, and, second, because of the thorough and satisfactory method of the investigation. The present author, while dealing with a much smaller number of cases, has, nevertheless,

followed a similar method in his work which accordingly makes a comparison of results the more valuable.

The present work is an inquiry into the subsequent histories of 241 cases discharged from sanatoria from 1901 to 1905 inclusive, according to the method adopted by Brown in the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium, using a practically identical nomenclature as to classification. As might be expected, the inquiry shows the superior advantage of treatment during the "incipient" stage of the disease. Nevertheless, it is encouraging and not a little gratifying to note the comparative longevity among the "Moderately Advanced" cases discharged "Improved" or "Arrested."

Roughly speaking, the author has found that approximately 50 per cent. of all patients, representing all stages of the disease upon their admission to sanatoria, are found to survive at the end of from five to eight years subsequent to their discharge. Much detailed information is given as to social condition and occupation following sanatorium treatment and a considerable part of the volume is given over to individual histories of the 241 cases. The work is a valuable addition to our statistics on tuberculosis.

A TEXTBOOK OF EXPERIMENTAL PHYSIOLOGY. For Students of Medicine. By N. H. ALCOCK, M.D., D.Sc., and F. O'B. ELLISON, M.D., St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, University of London. With a preface by E. H. STARLING, Jodrell Professor of Physiology in the University of London. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1909.

THIS work is aimed to put into practice the syllabus of practical physiology as prescribed by the University of London, and to furnish the medical student with such essentials in experimental physiology as will assist him in the comprehension and treatment of diseases. According to Professor Starling the medical student "should have a mental image of the organs of the animal body, that the latter becomes, so to speak, transparent, and he is able mentally to picture the disorders of function, which he infers from the signs and symptoms utilised by the medical man for the purposes of diagnosis."

A SHORT HANDBOOK OF COSMETICS. By Dr. MAX JOSEPH, Berlin. Third Edition, with 151 Recipes. Authorized English Translation. New York: E. B. Treat & Co., 1910.

As the author states in his preface, the subject of cosmetics has been too long neglected by physicians. In recent years the importance of the knowledge of this department of dermatology is being realized more and more among practitioners. This small volume treats in a satisfactory way of cosmetics of the skin, hair, nails, and mouth. There is a good index.

THE FAMILY HEALTH. By MYER SOLIS-COHEN, M.D., Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: The Penn Publishing Company, 1910.

ALTHOUGH it is said that "he who doctors himself has a fool for a patient," nevertheless there is a wide field for just such a book as Dr. Solis-Cohen has written for laymen. The subject matter is presented in popular form and includes the consideration of personal hygiene, problems of public health, care of infants, management of the sick, domestic medicine, and emergencies. The style is simple and clear, although scientific reasons are given for the measures advised. The table of contents is given in considerable detail, but there is no index.

THE PRACTITIONER'S CASE BOOK: For Recording and Preserving Clinical Histories. Prepared and Arranged by the Editorial Staff of the Interstate Medical Journal. Imperial octavo; 286 pages; full cloth binding. Printed on bond writing-paper. With 80 colored anatomical charts (detachable), showing outlines of body and skeleton in light red and the viscera in pale blue. Index for listing patients both by name and case number. St. Louis: Interstate Medical Journal Co., 1910.

THE above title gives a sufficiently clear idea of the nature of this volume. Two pages facing each other are allotted to the history of each patient, ample space being provided for notes of physical examination and of subsequent developments of the case. The detachable charts facilitate very much the recording of the findings. Of course no cut-and-dried *schema* can ever fit all cases, yet the forms contained in this book should prove very useful to beginning practitioners in helping them to keep an orderly account of their clinical material. The volume is recommended to such physicians as have not succumbed to the allurements of the more modern separate card system of keeping their notes.