

DISEASES OF THE THROAT, NOSE AND EAR. By WILLIAM H. KELSON, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Surgeon of the London Throat Hospital, Golden Square; Hon. Surgeon (Nose, Throat and Ear Department), City Dispensary; Lecturer on Diseases of the Ear. Pp. 252; 89 illustrations. London: Oxford Med. Press.

THIS work is a small text-book written for the general practitioner and the senior student. For this reason the more common and trivial procedures, such as the removal of cerumen, are given in considerable detail, while the more important undertakings, which are generally relegated to the specialist, are scarcely more than mentioned if not entirely omitted. We, however, see no reason why the author has failed to make any mention of such an important procedure as direct laryngoscopy and bronchoscopy. There is a lack of systematic arrangement of various subjects, and the style, to say the least, is exceedingly quaint. For instance, in speaking of pemphigus of the throat (p. 21) the author says "Arsenic

has a great reputation in this disease but most of the patients die." On the whole the book is a rather trite accumulation of throat, nose and ear lore giving many of the well-established facts their proper importance, and yet, it is sufficiently full of mistakes, especially concerning pathology and therapeutics to make it a rather unsafe guide for either the student or medical practitioner. The illustrations while fairly numerous are not especially illuminating, and the majority are crude and uninteresting. G. B. W.

STUDENT'S TEXT-BOOK OF HYGIENE. By W. JAMES WILSON, M.D., D.Sc., D.P.H., Bacteriologist to the Counties of Down and Antrim; Lecturer in Hygiene and Public Health, Queen's University, Belfast. Pp. 270; 26 illustrations. New York: Rebman Company.

HYGIENE in a strict sense deals with the principles of the science of keeping well, while public health, preventive medicine, and sanitary science have to do with the application of those principles. It is in this strict sense of the word that Wilson takes up the subject of hygiene in this book. The details of laboratory methods, the procedures of public health administration, and the technic of prophylactic measures are wisely omitted. The application of the principles discussed is only indicated in sufficient degree to enable the student, for whom the book is primarily written, "to appreciate the meaning and value of the results of analyses, and to understand the responsibilities resting upon the medical officer of health, the general medical practitioner, and the private individual, with regard to the preservation of health and the prevention of disease."

One is surprised to note the author's statement that "the routine inoculation of contacts with prophylactic doses of diphtheria antitoxin is not a measure which recommends itself to many physicians at the present time." Also, "In the British Isles open fires find favor on account of their cheerful appearance, while in America stoves are almost invariably used." Furthermore, one would not expect typhoid fever to be given in the list of diseases for which isolation hospitals should be furnished. T. G. M.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY. A TEXT-BOOK AND MANUAL FOR STUDENTS. By ALBERT P. MATHEWS, Ph.D. Pp. 1041; 78 text figures. New York: William Wood & Co.

MATHEWS has given us in this work one of the best books of its kind in physiological chemistry which has appeared in the English

language in recent years. The author states in the introduction, "Some parts of this subject have been treated far more fully than others, and, possibly, more fully than their importance deserves." This might be considered a fault by some, but, as one's personal preferences guide him in his opinion, this could hardly be looked as upon a point for criticism. The book is divided into three parts: Part I deals with general properties of living matter; the usual separate chapters on carbohydrate, fat, protein, and a very interesting chapter on the physical chemistry of protoplasm. Part II deals with body heat, food, digestion, absorption, excretion, metabolism as a whole, and the various body tissues. Part III consists of practical work and methods. At the end of the important chapters there is found an excellent summary of the subject matter and also references to the literature. The subject matter is brought up to date and is presented in a lucid, fascinating, readable manner. The book is certainly to be recommended to students and others who are interested in biological chemistry. In view of the ever-increasing adaptability of biochemical methods in diagnosis the chapter on practical methods should certainly increase the value of this book to physicians.

L. J.

LEJAR'S URGENT SURGERY. By FELIX LEJAR, Professor agrégé à la Faculté de Médecine de Paris; Chirurgien de l'Hôpital Saint Antoine; Membre de la Société de Chirurgie. Pp. 588; 1106 illustrations. Seventh edition, Vol. II. New York: Wm. Wood & Co.

THIS volume treats of the urgent surgery of the genito-urinary system, the rectum and anus, the hernias and the extremities. It is translated from the French by W. S. Dickie, M.D., and Ernest Ward, M.D.

The subject matter contained therein is all that could be desired. It treats of those phases of the conditions which are incompletely described and discussed in other works on surgery. No attempt is made to give a complete description of any one condition as regards pathology, etiology, etc. The reader is introduced to the urgent condition and then told how to handle it. Throughout the text there are numerous footnote histories of cases illustrating the condition under discussion.

After arriving at the diagnosis the author describes in minute detail the subsequent treatment, discussing the one or more possible ways of overcoming difficulties that may arise.

The illustrations and plates, aptly chosen and well executed, enhance the value of the work.

The style is exact, easy and pleasing, presenting facts, theories and opinions in an interesting and novel manner.

The book is well edited and the paper and printing are of the best.

When one takes up this work he is at once impressed by the author's vast and comprehensive grasp of his subjects, and by his unique and pleasing way of presenting such knowledge.

E. I. E.