

## BOOK REVIEWS

**ANAESTHESIA: NARCOSIS; LOCAL; REGIONAL; SPINAL.** By A. M. Dogliotti, M.D. Translated by Carlo S. Scuderi, M.D. Chicago, 1939. S. B. Debour. Price \$7.50.

We can recommend this book to any surgeon who wishes to add to his knowledge of anesthesia. It is replete with valuable facts and observations. The illustrations are above the average. The eleven chapters are divided into three parts, the first dealing with the historical background, pathways of sensibility and the pathologic physiology of pain, as well as the examination of the patient and preoperative care. Part 2 deals with narcosis, while Part 3 considers peripheral anesthesia. This latter section will prove valuable to the surgeon who wishes to be more familiar with regional anesthesia, spinal anesthesia, etc. This book of 680 pages from the pen of an Italian physician gives the results of his experience in this work. In translation it can now find a definite place in American literature.

**SCLEROSING THERAPY.** Edited by Frank C. Yeomans, M.D. Baltimore, 1939. Williams & Wilkins. Price \$6.00.

Although hundreds of articles on the subject of sclerosing procedures have appeared in the various surgical journals in the past five years, it is well to have a book that covers the subject in detail from every angle. This work is written by four authors and is really a series of four monographs gathered together in book form. Arthur F. Bratrud writes on The Injection Treatment of Hernia; George F. Hoch on Injection Treatment of Hydrocele; Harold J. Shelley on Injection Treatment of Varicose Veins; and Frank C. Yeomans on Injection Treatment of Hemorrhoids. The reader can, on the basis of the data presented, judge for himself the value of the technique offered.

**TEXTBOOK OF THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF NURSING.** By Bertha Harmer, R.N., A.M. and Virginia Henderson, R.N.,

A.M. Fourth Edition. New York, 1939. Macmillan. Price \$3.00.

This widely used textbook on the principles and practice of nursing first appeared in 1922. Added editions came out in 1928 and 1934, and in this, the fourth edition, the authors have thoroughly revised the work and made it conform more nearly to the curriculum guide published by the National League of Nursing Education in 1937. A new sequence of topics has been adopted, the scope of the text enlarged and techniques included that were not in general use when the third edition was published.

The book is divided into five parts: nursing and community health service; fundamentals of nursing care; assisting with diagnostic procedures; assisting the physician with therapeutic measures; introduction to medical and surgical nursing.

This book of over a thousand pages is clearly illustrated, and the writers happily have a pleasant and entertaining style. One need give little praise to a work that has become standard and now comes to us in a fourth edition. A good, large book at a very low price.

**FUNCTIONAL DISORDERS OF THE FOOT—THEIR DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.** By Frank D. Dickson, M.D., and Rex L. Diveley, M.D. Philadelphia, 1939. J. B. Lippincott Company. Price \$5.00.

This book was not written for the layman, but for the physician. It does not concern itself with pet theories, but discusses sound facts derived from personal observation and experience on the part of the authors.

Much space is given to a consideration of the foot in childhood and adolescence, for the authors feel that this period of life sees the beginning of many foot disorders. This 305 pages of text have 202 illustrations. The book is written for the understanding of the man in general practice, and is intensely practical.

It is about time that doctors of medicine knew more concerning disorders of the foot, and that the public learned to seek the physi-

cian and not a cutter of corns or a shoe salesman for the treatment of these conditions.

**THE NEUROGENIC BLADDER.** By Fredrick C. McLellan, M.D. Springfield, 1939. Charles C. Thomas. Price \$4.00.

The author in this book of 206 pages has not presented original material, but has correlated the literature on the subject and presented in a readily understandable form the problem of the neurogenic bladder as a result of disease of special location in the central nervous system. This volume gives the student or diagnostician a working knowledge of the value of cystometry in the differential diagnosis of neurogenic and non-neurogenic diseases of the bladder. The appendix includes a synopsis of one hundred neurogenic bladders with pertinent data and fifty-seven figures and charts to illustrate the text. This is a worthwhile work, well presented, offering bibliography and index.

**THE PHYSIOLOGICAL BASIS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE.** By Charles Herbert Best, M.D. and Normal Burke Taylor, M.D. Second Edition. Baltimore, 1939. Williams & Wilkins. Price \$10.00.

This unexcelled work first appeared in 1937. In two years' time it has been reprinted four times, and now appears in a new and larger edition.

The text, we are told, was written with the view of enabling the student to bring physiologic principles into more intimate relationship with the problems at the bedside. The book is long—eighty-one chapters, 1,972 pages, something for which neither authors nor publishers need apologize, for not one page could be spared. It is beautifully written and well illustrated. The references cover eighty-one pages, and the book is indexed in detail.

This is a short review, but an important, "must" book, already known as the best in its field, needs but few words to commend it.

**THE SURGERY OF INJURY AND PLASTIC REPAIR.** By Samuel Fomen, PH.D., M.D.

Baltimore, 1939. Williams & Wilkins Company. Price \$15.00.

Great strides have been made in the field of traumatic and plastic surgery during the past two decades, largely because of the increasing number of injuries due to industrial mechanization, transportation, and greater sports activity.

The author has had twenty-five years' experience in lecturing to post-graduate students and army surgeons on the subject of trauma. He divides his book into two parts, the first on general principles and the second, a regional surgery of the exterior head. The author says he intended covering the entire body, "but the impossibility of incorporating so vast an amount of material under one cover soon became apparent . . ."

The volume begins where pathologic and remedial surgery leaves off. Steps of operations are carried through to physiologic rehabilitation and anatomic restitution. Usual surgical procedures to be found in textbooks are omitted. There are about a thousand illustrations, mostly clearcut line drawings, with a great many in color.

The book is 1,409 pages long, has adequate references at the end of each chapter, and an index.

**ENDOCRINE GYNECOLOGY.** By E. C. Hamblen, M.D., F.A.C.S. Foreword by J. B. Collip, M.D. Springfield, 1939. Charles C. Thomas. Price \$5.50.

This book is for the general practitioner, and has developed from the author's lectures on endocrine gynecology. New facts in this field seem to come to light almost every month, but the author nevertheless manages to present his subject, covering the field adequately. The sections dealing with therapeutic substances and their potency will prove an aid to the general man in every day work. The cost of drugs and the values of diagnostic equipment are carefully analyzed. The illustrations (169) are excellent and different, some being in color. The book is 453 pages long, has references at the end of chapters, and subject and author indices.