

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS

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**Techniques Chirurgicales.** By A. GOSSET, Chirurgien de la Salpêtrière, Professeur de Clinique chirurgicale à la Faculté de Médecine de Paris; with the collaboration of MM. L.-G. AMIOT, IVAN BERTRAND, JEAN CHARRIER, P. FUNCK-BRENTANO, J. GARCIA-CALDERON, JEAN GOSSET, P. HAUDUROY, R. LEDOUX-LEBARD, R. LEIBOVICI, G. LÉWY, P. PETIT-DUTAILLIS, P. ROUCHÉ, R. SAUVAGE, G. SEILLÉ, R. SOUPAULT, M. THALHEIMER, and E. WALLON. Imperial 8vo. Pp. 434 + viii, with 219 illustrations. 1936. Paris: Masson et Cie. Paper covers, Fr. 105; bound, Fr. 125.

HERE M. Gosset and his colleagues present an account of the Surgical Service in the Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris, of which M. Gosset has been the Director for more than twenty years.

In addition to a number of technical articles, e.g., on Diaphragmatic Hernia and Intestinal Obstruction, which describe the activities of the Clinic, Gosset enunciates his matured convictions concerning the housing, organization, and staffing of a surgical unit. The organization comprises both the Clinic of the Faculty and also an Anti-cancer Centre such as exists in Paris and in some of the large French towns. The number of beds in the Clinic is 300, which are divided among pavilions, each containing 30 beds. To each pavilion two assistants are attached who work under the authority of the "chef de service". The Clinic includes numerous assistants, both surgical and medical, and a complete service of radiology, radiotherapy, curie-therapy, and laboratories of pathology, chemistry, bacteriology, and hematology. This contribution should be of great service to anyone contemplating the organization of a surgical unit.

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**Minor Surgery.** By FREDERICK CHRISTOPHER, S.B., M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Surgery at the Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Chief Surgeon at the Evanston (Ill.) Hospital. With a Foreword by ALLEN B. KANAVEL, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Surgery at the Northwestern University Medical School. Third edition, reset. Large 8vo. Pp. 1030, with 709 illustrations. 1936. London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co. 42s. net.

MINOR SURGERY is defined here as the surgery which has a low mortality; which requires but few assistants; and which is done generally in the hospital out-patient department or in the office.

Though dealing with minor surgery it is not a little book, for it is an octavo volume of 1030 pages. Nor does it treat the subject as one of minor importance. Rather it emphasizes the point that minor surgery may become major surgery through carelessness or incompetence, and that there cannot be too much instruction in minor surgery.

The whole range of the subject is treated most exhaustively and sensibly, and it should prove a useful book of reference to all students beginning surgery and also to resident medical officers.

One of the best sections in the opinion of the reviewer is that dealing with the treatment of wounds and the methods of securing early healing and restoration of function.

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**Manual of Emergencies: Medical, Surgical and Obstetric: Their Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment.** By J. SNOWMAN, M.D., M.R.C.P.Lond. Third edition. Crown 8vo. Pp. 401 + ix. 1936. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson Ltd. 10s. 6d. net.

It is very remarkable how much useful information has been packed into this small manual. It was originally based on the treatise of Lenzmann, but has been well adapted to the modern standard of teaching in British text-books. After treating of shock, the various emergencies which may affect the respiratory, cardiac, nervous, alimentary, and urinary systems are dealt