

methods of local anæsthesia are considered, instruments, etc.; this section is followed by details of wound dressings and the more common types of injury and their results, such as open wounds, infections, burns, etc. An article on the diagnosis and treatment of cutaneous and subcutaneous simple swellings closes the first part.

The second part is arranged on a 'regional surgery' basis. Many will disagree that a number of the lesions described and illustrated are suitable for ambulatory treatment. It is quite one thing for surgeons as eminent as the authors with all the necessary conveniences and staff at their disposal to deal with them, and quite another for a busy rural practitioner to attempt them when he may not be able to even procure the help of a trained nurse, let alone have time to follow up the case properly if the patient finds he is not so ambulatory after as he was before the surgical procedure, and needs skilled nursing at any rate for a few days.

With the present shortage of beds it might be quite impossible to get such a patient into hospital and the practitioner may well wish he had never attempted the operation and the result determine him never to do it again. This is certainly the case with some of the lower limb injuries described in the third part.

The book will certainly be very useful to resident house surgeons and also the trained out-patient surgeon who is attached to a hospital into which the patient can be admitted under his care, if necessary. As time goes on patients will become more and more critical of the results and become more and more inclined to allege culpable negligence if any untoward complication should occur when they have been treated as ambulatory.

**The Surgical Treatment of Facial Injuries.** By VARAZTAD HOVHANNES KAZANJIAN, M.D., D.M.D., Professor Emeritus of Plastic Surgery, Harvard University; etc.; and JOHN MARQUIS CONVERSE, M.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery (Plastic Surgery), New York University College of Medicine; etc. 6½ × 10 in. Pp. 574 + xiv, with 746 illustrations. 1950. Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Co. (London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox.) 76s. 6d.

THE authors have attempted to cover a very large subject in a volume of readable length. To do so they have deliberately restricted themselves to descriptions of the methods of treatment they practice, with the consequence that the book is essentially practical. This positive quality will appeal to students of plastic surgery towards the beginning of their training and they will learn much from it at this stage. Ophthalmic, dental, and otorhinolaryngological surgeons will also find the chapters pertaining to their respective specialities useful for the same reason.

The more advanced student whose business it is to learn to weigh the pros and cons of different procedures in difficult situations may not find these discussed in sufficient detail.

The trained plastic surgeon will appreciate the orthodoxy of the methods advocated. If critical at all, he may feel that the snags and pitfalls could have received greater emphasis and some of the operative procedures more detailed description. The tyro will undoubtedly run into difficulties of which he has had no warning. The chapter dealing with the treatment of facial burns seemed to the reviewer particularly to deserve this criticism.

The text reads easily and the illustrations are plentiful and clear. The introductory section includes a most interesting and informative chapter on the evolution and anatomy of the face, in addition to the standard chapters on the healing and suture of wounds. A kindly understanding of the psychological problems which confront the victims of facial injuries will please all those who have had experience in trying to help these patients.

The authors have achieved their declared object, which is to teach the reader the methods of treatment which they find successful, and they are to be congratulated on restricting themselves to this despite the limitations it necessarily imposes on the book.

**Essentials of Urology.** By J. C. AINSWORTH-DAVIS, M.A., M.D., B.Ch. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S. (Eng., and Edin.), Urological Surgeon, The Bolingbroke Hospital, London; etc. 5½ × 8½ in. Pp. 734 + xii, with 512 illustrations. 1950. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 50s.

IN giving this account of urology the author lays stress on the importance of the methods of examination, both general and special, which are needed in order that a correct diagnosis may be reached. This section, which occupies about one-sixth of the volume, is probably the best. Opinions change quickly in a branch of surgery which is developing rapidly, and many will not agree with some of the procedures advocated. The tying of a gum-elastic catheter in the urethra for a week or ten days, for example, is often followed by serious urethritis, whilst a rubber or latex catheter would be better tolerated. The ambulatory treatment of papilloma by repeated short sessions of diathermy under local anæsthesia is generally now regarded as inferior in its results to one or more thorough sessions under general anæsthesia.

The description of Hunner's ulcer is somewhat remote from the accepted facts; the trigone, on which it is here depicted, is the one part of the bladder never affected, and the "ulcer" is not deeply excavated and cleanly cut.

Nevertheless, there is much useful information presented attractively, and we offer a warm welcome to a book on this subject by an English author.

**Essential Urology.** By FLETCHER H. COLBY, M.D., Chief of the Urological Service, Massachusetts General Hospital; etc. 6 × 9 in. Pp. 580 + x, with 342 illustrations. 1950. Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Co. (London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox.) 61s. 6d.

IF this book has been written mainly for students, as is stated in the preface, the American student must be expected to know much more about the subject than his British counterpart. There is a wealth of information on the embryology, anatomy, and physiology of the genito-urinary tract, a short section on the methods of examination, and a longer part on diseases discussed on a regional basis. Treatment is indicated on broad lines, with no detailed description of operations.

The accounts are complete and accurate without being either too verbose or too concise; at the end of each section is a list of references, mainly to the American literature, which will encourage further study of the subject. Illustrations are numerous and cover nearly every aspect of the text. We can recommend this book to every practising urologist; the undergraduate student will find in it more than he needs.

**The Hinge Graft or Ginglymus Implant.** By ARNOLD K. HENRY, M.B. (Dubl.), M.Ch. (Hon.) Cairo, F.R.C.S.I., Emeritus Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University of Egypt; Professor of Anatomy in the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland. 6½ × 9½ in. Pp. 64 + viii, with 47 illustrations. 1950. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 15s.

PROFESSOR A. K. Henry's *Extensile Exposure Applied to Limb Surgery* was a masterpiece; his monograph on