

1900. In the preface to the thirteenth edition, it is stated that some 2,500 new words have been added. The book is something more than a mere dictionary; it is a compend of the terms used in medicine, surgery, dentistry, pharmacy, chemistry, nursing, veterinary science, biology and even medical biography. A very valuable feature of the work is that the derivation of each word is given, together with much collateral information of an encyclopædic character.

The work is thus exhaustive and exceedingly valuable; its colour plates and numerous illustrations alone make it very attractive. To anyone with much writing for medical journals to do, it is a veritable necessity; to even the general practitioner, however, it will make a very strong appeal. In one respect the book is American rather than English; for instance, we looked up "ætiology"—which is the correct etymological spelling of the word, but found only "etiology," which may be more popular but is less correct. This however is an exceedingly minor point. We looked up several different tropical diseases and were pleased to find the information given accurate and up-to-date. From *aa* to *zymurgy*, the volume is replete with information. We wish that all of the more frequent of our contributors would purchase and use this celebrated dictionary; it would lighten our editorial duties by at least 50 per cent. As it is, we shall frequently be compelled to resort to it ourselves. Anyone who thinks that he can spell has only to try editorial work for a year or two; he will then find that correcting the spelling of others has ruined his own. The wider the circulation of this splendid work in India, the better we shall be pleased.

**THE ART OF MEDICAL TREATMENT. WITH REFERENCE BOTH TO THE PATIENT AND TO HIS FRIENDS.**—By Francis W. Palfrey, M.D., Visiting Physician, Boston City Hospital, Instructor in Medicine, Harvard University. London and Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, Ltd. Pp. 463. Price, Cloth 21s. net.

THIS book aims at giving the essentials of medical treatment in an explicit and condensed form. The instructions are on the same lines as those contained in the standard text-books of medicine, and for this reason the average medical student is not likely to find this separate volume an essential in the acquisition of knowledge.

The practitioner who desires to bring his knowledge up-to-date will find the volume useful and instructive. As is usual in such books the sections on tropical diseases are neither so full nor so up-to-date as could be desired. Most of us would appreciate the inclusion of a few prescriptions; though the writing of a prescription forms only one part of the treatment of a patient it is nevertheless an important part.

The book is produced in the usual excellent style of Messrs. Saunders.

**SYNOPSIS OF MEDICINE.**—By H. Letheby Tidy, M.D. 4th Edition. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd., 1925. Pp. 1000. Price, 21s. net.

A HANDY book containing all important recent information useful for students in revision, for practitioners in looking up the modern literature and for teachers before lecturing. This edition is entirely rewritten and the recent work on asthma, diabetes and jaundice is included. Students of tropical medicine will be disappointed in not finding in it sufficient up-to-date information. The author, however, is to be congratulated as the book is an excellent general synopsis of general medicine.

**CATECHISM SERIES. EDINBURGH: E. & S. LIVINGSTONE. MIDWIFERY; PARTS I & II. MEDICAL BACTERIOLOGY AND PROTOZOOLOGY.**—By W. R. Logan, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.; **PARTS I & II. DISEASES OF THE EYE.** By W. G. Sym, M.D., F.R.C.S.E. Price, 1s. 6d. net each part.

We confess that we do not like this type of book. Medicine is a science and art which has to be mastered, and spoon-feeding of students, a bad habit in the

English medical schools, is even more dangerous in India. Yet there is no doubt that this little class of book is very popular, and the volumes which we have received are all in their second or third edition. They meet the need of the medical student for final rapid revision for examinations, although they can in no way replace systematic text-books. The "Catechism Series" is well got up, well printed and handy. What is more, the information given is accurate, and the publishers are a very well known firm with a high reputation. The price is within reach of the pocket of even the poorest student.

**THE MEDICAL ANNUAL GENERAL INDEX, 1915—1924.**—Published by John Wright & Sons, Ltd., Bristol. Pp. 301. Price, 12s. 6d. net.

THIS index deals with the contents of the last ten volumes of the *Medical Annual*. It will be found invaluable to the thousands of medical men who subscribe to the *Annual*, constituting as it does a guide to all the most important literature of the past ten years.

**THE STUDENTS' POCKET PRESCRIBER.**—By Dr. D. M. Macdonald, M.D., F.R.C.P.E. 9th Edition. Edinburgh: E. & D. Livingstone, 1925. Pp. 226. Price, 3s. net.

IN a miniature volume which will readily go into the vest pocket, the author has condensed no less than 551 prescriptions with directions for use. They are arranged according to the diseases for which they are intended.

There is a great deal of information on prescribing, a table of doses, a vocabulary, diet tables, etc. This handy and cheap volume will be found very useful by students and doctors. It has reached the 9th edition and is becoming increasingly popular.

**THE BOOK OF PRESCRIPTIONS.**—By E. W. Lucas, C.B.E., and H. B. Stevens, O.B.E. 11th Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill, 1926. Pp. 382. Price, 10s. 6d.

THE 11th edition of this useful and well known handbook has been issued after nearly 12 years. The present edition has been thoroughly revised and a large number of useless remedies have been deleted, while new useful remedies such as new compounds of arsenic have been introduced. Brief notes on the pharmacological action of drugs enhance the value of the book and we recommend it to the notice of students and practitioners.

**FAVOURITE PRESCRIPTIONS.**—By Esplne Ward, M.D. (Belfast). London: J. & A. Churchill, 1926. Pp. 96. Price, 5s. net.

THIS book is divided into three parts. The first part consists of dosage tables, the second part gives hints for treatment of poisoning, and the third part gives favourite prescriptions arranged according to the diseases and symptoms for which they are used. The prescriptions given are well selected, all incompatibilities being carefully avoided. The book is interleaved, thus providing room for any additions. We feel certain this little edition will be of use to students going in for examination, and to practitioners generally.

**ELEMENTS OF SURFACE ANATOMY.**—By I. McLaren Thompson, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), Assistant Professor of Anatomy, McGill University, Montreal. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, 1925. Pp. 172. Available from Messrs. Butterworth & Co. (India), Ltd. Post Box 251, Calcutta. Price, Rs. 4-2 or 5s. 6d.

THIS small book consists of five chapters dealing with the surface anatomy of the five parts of the human body, viz., the head, the neck, the trunk, the superior extremity and the inferior extremity. The English translation of the B. N. A. has been adopted in the description, but the old nomenclature has with advantage been inserted within parentheses, the first time each term occurs. By including the clinical