

only one conclusion on basic principles in criminological problems is possible—that is, “your guess is as good as mine—until experience proves otherwise.” Some signs of haste should be removed—for example, the authors of the chapters are not given in the contents list; and we hope that any later edition will include an index, which should not be omitted from a practical handbook.

J. D. SUTHERLAND.

PRACTICAL ALLERGY

Office Immunology, including Allergy. A Guide for the Practitioner. Edited by Marion B. Sulzberger and R. L. Baer. (Pp. 420; illustrated. \$6.50 or 36s.) Chicago: The Year Book Publishers, Inc. London: H. K. Lewis and Co. 1947.

The qualification of this book's title is an understatement: discussion of allergy is not merely included but forms by far the greater part of the book. The authors begin with a full description of how to do tests for sensitivity, illustrating the text by photographs showing the technique of scratch- and patch-testing and of intradermal injection. The next section is about the immunology of infections, but, since the authors confine their account to what the practitioner can do in his own office, they ignore bacteriological and serological methods in diagnosis and mention only skin tests with antigens prepared from the micro-organism concerned. They even suggest their being used in diagnosing actinomycosis and filariasis, without any mention of examining the pus and blood respectively. The book would be more helpful if it included instructions for collecting specimens for the more usual laboratory investigations which give an unequivocal result.

The subjects of the remaining sections are Rh grouping, respiratory allergies, skin diseases (again largely allergic but oddly including actinomycosis and anthrax), spider, insect, and snake bites, and miscellaneous allergies. The authors fully describe methods of immunization and include lists of firms supplying the necessary materials. There is a prodigious list, running to 19 pages, of substances with which patch tests can be done, stating the vehicle and concentration to be used. Regarded as a practical textbook of allergy, this book presents to the reader a large and new if somewhat unreal world, and it may be found of much interest. When the authors discuss conditions not primarily allergic they give so incomplete an account as to be positively misleading to all but the well-informed.

L. P. GARROD.

GROWING OLD

The Years after Fifty. By Wingate M. Johnson, M.D. With a foreword by Morris Fishbein, M.D. (Pp. 153. \$2.00.) New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.

This book is not to be regarded as an addition to geriatric knowledge. Although the author adequately surveys for the layman some elementary facts about disease, yet in a book on senescence it is a little disconcerting to find references to rheumatoid arthritis, prolapsed disk, and puerperal thrombophlebitis. The concluding chapters contain unexceptionable advice on the problems of ageing, but the author makes plain that the quality of our advice to those growing old has not improved upon that of Cicero, from whose *de Senectute* he quotes freely. It is also inevitable that

“Grow old along with me!
The best is yet to be,”

should be quoted, if only to convince the cynical that life would be difficult, and senescence intolerable, without self-deception. It is perhaps in the same vein that the author, who is Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, of Wake Forest College, records the “apparently well-authenticated case of a North Carolina Confederate veteran who became the father of two children at ninety-four and ninety-six years of age.” However, robust American common sense cannot be altogether excluded, and we read with affection of Chauncey Depew, who lived to the age of 93, remarking that “the only exercise he took was acting as pallbearer for his friends who took exercise.”

D. V. HUBBLE.

BOOKS RECEIVED

[Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received]

La Tuberculosis in Italia. By G. L'Eltore. (Pp. 284. No price.) Rome: Federazione Italiana per la Lotta Contro la Tuberculosis. 1947.

A general account with statistical tables of tuberculosis in Italy.

Modern Trends in Dermatology. Edited by R. M. B. MacKenna, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 432. 42s.) London: Butterworth. 1948.

Articles on various aspects of dermatology by different authorities.

Modern Methods of Amputation. By E. Vasconcelos. (Pp. 253. 61s. 6d.) Bognor Regis, Sussex: John Crowther. 1945.

Narcosis and Drug Addiction. By E. Hesse, M.D. (Pp. 219. 22s. 6d.) Bognor Regis, Sussex: John Crowther. 1946.

Discusses the ordinary drugs of addiction as well as tobacco, alcohol, tea, and coffee.

Introduction to Physiology. By W. H. Newton, D.Sc., M.D. (Pp. 284. 7s. 6d.) London: Edward Arnold. 1948.

Intended for the general reader as well as the medical student.

A Handbook on Hanging. By C. Duff. 3rd ed. (Pp. 79. 2s.) London: Freedom Press. 1948.

A light though informative account of the art of hanging.

Psychotherapy, its Uses and Limitations. By D. R. Allison, M.D., M.R.C.P., and R. G. Gordon, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 160. 8s. 6d.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1948.

A practical introduction for general practitioner and student.

Diabetes and the Diabetic in the Community. By M. E. Tangney, R.N. (Pp. 259. 14s.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders. 1947.

The management of diabetics described for the medical practitioner.

A Baby is Born. By G. M. Kerr, M.B., B.S. (Pp. 120. 3s. 6d.) London: Lantern Publishing Co. 1947.

A short book of advice for expectant mothers.

On Hospitals. By S. S. Goldwater, M.D. (Pp. 395. \$9 or 45s.) New York: The Macmillan Company. 1947.

A general account of modern hospitals.

Microbial Antagonisms and Antibiotic Substances. By S. A. Waksman. 2nd ed. (Pp. 415. \$4 or 22s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1947.

The discoverer of streptomycin discusses the interrelationships of micro-organisms.

The Background of Therapeutics. By J. H. Burn, M.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 367. 22s. 6d.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1948.

A short account of the principles and practice of therapeutics.

Psychological Atlas. By D. Katz. (Pp. 142. \$5.) New York: Philosophical Library. 1948.

A varied gallery of illustrations to lectures on psychology, including composite photographs of faces, children's drawings, and paintings by the insane.

Bodies and Souls. By M. van der Meersch. (Pp. 463. 15s.) London: The Pilot Press. 1948.

A novel of medical practice in France; translated from the French.

Endotracheal Anaesthesia. By N. A. Gillespie, D.M., B.Ch., M.A., M.D., D.A. 2nd ed. (Pp. 237. \$4.) U.S.A.: The University of Wisconsin Press. 1948.

A general account, including practical details and references.

Paravertebral Block. By F. Mandl, M.D., F.I.C.S. (Pp. 330. 32s.) London: William Heinemann. 1947.

A monograph on the relief of pain associated with the autonomic nervous system.

Dermatologic Therapy in General Practice. By M. B. Sulzberger, M.D., and J. Wolf, M.D. 3rd ed. (Pp. 663. \$7.75 or 42s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1948.

A manual of modern methods in dermatology.

Cost of N.H.S.

The estimated cost in the first nine months of the National Health Service is £149,675,000, according to the Civil Estimates published on March 20. The hospital, specialist, and ancillary services in England, Scotland, and Wales will cost £120,606,500; services provided by the local authorities, £4,050,000; general medical and dental services, pharmaceutical and supplementary ophthalmic services, £56,072,500. Compensation for loss of right to sell practices is estimated to be £4,800,000, and central purchase of equipment to be £7,505,000.

Exhibition of Medical Photography

The Medical Group of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain has arranged an exhibition of medical photography to be held at the Royal Society of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, London, W.) from May 24 to 29. Entries must be submitted by April 24. Further particulars may be obtained from the honorary secretary of the group at 16, Prince's Gate, London, S.W.7.

Whitley Council Machinery

It is proposed to set up nine functional councils and a general council, as well as a Scottish council for special conditions in Scotland. The proposed functional councils are as follows: medical, dental, pharmaceutical, optical, two for professional and technical staffs, one each for nurses and midwives, administrative and clerical, and ancillary staffs. They would deal with questions of remuneration and the conditions of employment of people within the functional group concerned. The general council would deal with problems affecting more than one functional group.

Medical Certification

A preliminary draft of medical certification arrangements under the National Insurance Act has been issued and submitted to the National Insurance Advisory Committee. The regulations provide for five incapacity certificates: (1) A first certificate, to be issued when the patient falls ill. (2) An intermediate certificate, to be issued within seven days of the first certificate. (3) A special intermediate certificate, to be issued after 28 days, if the incapacity is likely to continue for a long period. (4) An intermediate convalescent certificate, to be issued after 28 days when the patient will remain incapable of work until after a period of absence from home during convalescence. (5) A final certificate, to be issued when the patient is again fit for work. Two certificates to be given by a doctor or midwife are also described, noting details of when the woman may expect to be confined and when she was delivered.

Scottish Hospitals Excepted from the N.H.S.

The Department of Health for Scotland has notified Roman Catholic hospitals and institutions that they will not be required in the N.H.S. Contractual arrangements will be made between Regional Hospital Boards and institutions.

Public Opinion on the N.H.S.

In a "Gallup Poll" conducted by the *News Chronicle* to test public opinion, 61% considered that the new Health Service "is a good thing." Sixty-four per cent of those questioned said they had some idea what the dispute is about between Mr. Bevan and the B.M.A., and in reply to the question, "In the main would you say that your sympathy is with the doctors or against the doctors?" 30 of these said "with," 28 said "against," and 6 said "don't know."

Czech Medical Trade Union

Since the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak Medical Association has been declared a trade union, according to *The Times* of March 8.

COMING EVENTS**Chesterfield Medal Examination**

The Chesterfield Medal examination in dermatology will be held at St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, 5, Lisle Street, London, W.C., on Wednesday and Thursday, April 7 and 8, and Friday, April 16. The fee for candidates is £3 3s.

Medical Exhibition

The Southern Counties Medical Exhibition will be held at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton, on April 20 to 22. A number of well-known drug manufacturers are exhibiting, and some medical films will be shown each day in the afternoon.

Aslib

A study group on special librarianship will be held at the Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, on April 13-17. Applications should be sent as soon as possible to Aslib, 52, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES**Wednesday**

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY, 330, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.—March 31, 11.30 a.m. "*Plastic Surgery*," by Prof. T. Pomfret Kilner.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE, 28, Portland Place, London, W.—March 31, 3.30 p.m. "*The Home Nursing of Children*," by Miss Dorothy A. Lane, R.S.C.N.

Thursday

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY—At 16, Prince's Gate, London, S.W., April 1, 7 p.m. Medical Film Evening.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE—At Guildhall, Northampton, April 1, 10 a.m. "*Control of Infection in Day Schools*," paper by Dr. C. M. Smith. "*The Water Supply of Northampton*," paper by Dr. C. G. Payton.

Friday

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL, Canterbury.—April 2, 5 p.m. Monthly clinical meeting.

LEEDS AND WEST RIDING MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY—At Leeds General Infirmary, April 2, 8.30 p.m. Annual meeting. "*Some Diseases of People*," by Dr. T. Main.

WHIPPS CROSS HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, Whipps Cross Hospital, London, E.—April 2, 8.30 p.m. "*The Modern Treatment of Venereal Diseases*," by Dr. F. G. MacDonald.

APPOINTMENTS

Sir Alexander Fleming, F.R.S., and Sir John Boyd Orr, F.R.S., have been appointed members of the Scottish Council for Health Education.

HOLDERNESS, G. P., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Full-time Medical Officer for New County Health Division of Aireborough, Horsforth, and Pudsey, Yorkshire.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL—The following appointments in the Council's mental health services are announced at the hospitals indicated in parentheses. *Assistant Physicians*: H. R. Rollin, M.D., D.P.M. (Horton); A. S. Thorley, M.D., D.P.M. (Sutton).

MCMILLAN, CHARLES, M.D., F.R.C.P., Emeritus Professor in Child Life and Health in the University of Edinburgh, has been elected to the Board of Managers of Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, in place of Dr. John Orr who has resigned.

PARKER, W. S., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H., Medical Officer of Health, Cromer U.D.C., North Walsham U.D.C., Sheringham U.D.C., and Erpingham R.D.C., and Medical Officer, East Norfolk Joint Isolation Hospital.

THOMPSON, J. D., M.B., B.Ch., Director of Department of Physical Medicine, Redhill County Hospital, Edgware.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS**BIRTHS**

Ferguson—On March 10, 1948, to Joan M. Ferguson (née Thornton), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., wife of Matthew Ferguson, of 17, Townsend Crescent, Kirkcaldy, Fife, a daughter.

Hawkins—On March 14, 1948, at 9, Lansdowne Road, Wimbledon, to Lena, wife of John Hawkins, M.S., F.R.C.S., a daughter—Jane.

Raymond—On March 7, 1948, at University College Hospital, to Dr. Joan Raymond, wife of Dr. Michael Raymond, a daughter.

Tate—On March 13, 1948, at St. Mary's Nursing Home, Nottingham, to Betty (née Wilks), wife of Dr. Hugh Tate, M.B.E., a brother for Richard—Simon George.

MARRIAGES

Adam—Ross—On March 12, 1948, at St. John's Episcopal Church, Forres, by the Rev. Canon Cecil Lake, T.D., J. C. Adam, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., Duncryne, Forres, to Elizabeth Ross, S.R.N., S.C.M., Ivy Cottage, Forres.

Arnott—Burt—On Feb. 21, 1948, in London, David Charles Arnott, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., to Ruth Margaret Burt, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Pezeshgi—Jones—On March 20, 1948, S. H. K. Pezeshgi, M.R.C.S., of Persian Embassy, to Audrey Elizabeth Jones, S.R.N., of Slindon, Sussex.

DEATHS

Hav—On March 12, 1948, at University College Hospital, London, Malcolm Bell Hay, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., aged 71, late West African Medical Service.

Heywood—On March 10, 1948, at Earncliffe, Alderley Edge, near Manchester, Charles Christopher Heywood, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., aged 82.

Laird—Recently, at 5, Neville Road, Rathgar, Dublin, Harry Seymour Laird, L.R.C.P. & S.I., and L.M., aged 77.

MacMillan—On March 11, 1948, at Perth Royal Infirmary, Evan MacMillan, M.B., Ch.B. Ed.

Newbigging—On March 8, 1948, at Holmfild, Lanark, Thomas Duncan Newbigging, M.B., C.M.

Oliver—On March 6, 1948, at Malvern House, Marshfield, Richard Harris Oliver, F.R.C.S.I.

Pearse—On March 5, 1948, at Rest Harrow, Uplym, Lyme Regis, Athol Stewart Joseph Pearse, M.B., B.Ch.

Prentice—On Feb. 29, 1948, at Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia, George Prentice, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., L.R.F.P.S. Glas.

Reid—On March 10, 1948, at 53, Alnwickhill Road, Edinburgh, Edward Waymouth Reid, Sc.D. LL.D., M.B., F.R.S., late Professor of Physiology, University College, Dundee, St. Andrews University, aged 85.

Robertson—On March 6, 1948, at Bridgefoot House, Thornton-le-Dale, Pickering, Yorks, Douglas Robertson, M.B., Ch.B., aged 49.

Stolterfoth—On March 6, 1948, at Heather Cottage, Burghclere, Newbury, Berks, Charles Sigismund Stolterfoth, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Turle—On March 6, 1948, at Duffield House, Bexhill, James Evan Turle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 70.

Young—On March 12, 1948, at Glasgow, Roy Frew Young, M.C., LL.D., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S. Glas., of 2, Park Quadrant, Glasgow.