

that orthoptic exercises twice or three times a week are useless, and insists that they must be done daily. While this may be a counsel of perfection, it is impossible for mothers in this country who have no domestic help, are often working themselves, or who have a large family to look after in bad housing conditions; for her to attend more frequently and to give home exercises in satisfactory conditions is not always practicable. In any case, the good results obtained in our orthoptic clinics would belie such a gloomy view of their usefulness. The author says that it is not necessary to obtain complete straightness by operation in a case of convergence if glasses in addition will produce orthophoria, and that to operate a second time on eyes which are still squinting without glasses but are straight with is to invite divergence. This view again will not find general agreement. He is reticent on his treatment of divergence. Again, the treatment of paralytic squint is to trace the cause and cover the eye, the question of operation is tucked away elsewhere in the text.

These are but a few of the points which differ from the teaching in this country, and while the work may be read safely by surgeons and experienced orthoptists, it would not be suitable for candidates for the examinations of the Orthoptic Board. The index, very often a pointer to the usefulness of a book to the experienced reader, is full, but there are one or two omissions, such as "ocular torticollis," though this subject is discussed in the text.

J. D. M. CARDELL.

THESIS ON TROPHIC NERVES

Trophic Nerves. By R. Wyburn-Mason, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 1,083; 69 illustrations. £3 15s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1950.

During the last century trophic nerves were considered to be of importance, but more recently their very existence has been questioned. Many lesions which were at one time regarded as "trophic" in origin have been considered to be due to injury or infection in areas deprived of normal sensation, or to be the result of disturbances in the vascular supply. In this volume Dr. Wyburn-Mason attempts not only to show that trophic nerves exist, but that these nerves and their connexions in the central nervous system are of fundamental importance in the co-ordination of the activity of all body tissues, and that many disease processes (including congenital growth abnormalities and a number of neurological and psychological disorders) are the result of alterations in their activity.

The author has obviously spent a great deal of time in assembling the evidence on which he bases his thesis, and the 930 pages of text are full of assorted information; but some of this, including clinical descriptions of many well-recognized diseases, seems hardly relevant to the main theme. There is unfortunately no final chapter in which the author's conclusions are integrated, and this is a defect of considerable importance in a work in which so revolutionary an idea is propounded.

J. W. ALDREN TURNER.

The Asthmatic Child, by Dr. G. F. Walker (pp. 19; 2s. 6d.; postage 2d.; Bristol: John Wright and Sons), is intended for the parents of asthmatic children. In the first two pages Dr. Walker gives general information on those factors commonly responsible for the development of asthma and sound general advice on how the children should be handled. The booklet includes a series of photographs demonstrating various breathing and relaxation exercises found to be of use in this condition with concise instructions on how they should be carried out. It is well produced and should serve the purpose of instructing and reassuring its readers.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received

Il Riso in Psicologia. By T. Senise. 2nd ed. (Pp. 542. No price.) Naples: Biblioteca Di. Il Cervello. 1950.

Untersuchungen über die Tuberkulose des Dünndarmes. By F. Bohm. (Pp. 71. M. 10.50.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1950.

I Congreso Hispano-Portugues de Farmacia. Pp. 1,036. No price.) Madrid: Real Academia de Farmacia. 1950.

The Deep Cervical Fascia. By E. S. Meyers, M.B., F.R.A.C.S. (Pp. 39. No price.) Brisbane: University of Queensland Press. 1950.

Social Medicine: Its Derivations and Objectives. By I. Galdston, M.D. (Pp. 294. 22s.) New York: The Commonwealth Fund. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1949.

Electroencephalography. Edited by D. Hill, M.B., F.R.C.P., and G. Parr, M.I.E.E. (Pp. 438. 78s.) London: Macdonald. 1950.

Essential Urology. By F. H. Colby, M.D. (Pp. 580. 61s. 6d.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1950.

Annual Review of Medicine. Vol. 1. Edited by W. C. Cutting, M.D., and H. W. Newman, M.D. (Pp. 484. 48s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1950.

Textbook of Endocrinology. Edited by R. H. Williams, M.D., and others. (Pp. 793. 50s.) London: Saunders. 1950.

A Primer for Diabetic Patients. By R. M. Wilder, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.P. 9th ed. (Pp. 200. 12s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

A Manual of Cardiology. By T. J. Dry, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., M.S. 2nd ed. (Pp. 355. 25s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

The Fundamentals of Personal Hygiene. By W. W. Krueger. 5th ed. (Pp. 284. 15s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

Textbook of Biochemistry. By B. Harrow, Ph.D. 5th ed. (Pp. 609. 30s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

Medical Gynecology. By J. C. Janney, M.D., F.A.C.S. 2nd ed. (Pp. 454. 32s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

The Cytologic Diagnosis of Cancer. By the staff of the Vincent Memorial Laboratory of the Vincent Memorial Hospital. (Pp. 229. 33s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

Provisions of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Poisons Rules, 1949, relating to Sales of Insecticides, Fungicides, Weed-killers, Rodenticides, etc. Price 1s. London: Association of British Insecticide Manufacturers. 1950.

Tropical Hygiene and Sanitation. By H. Jordan, M.B.E., M.R.San.I., and others. 2nd ed. (Pp. 357. 5s.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1950.

The Rhesus Danger: Its Medical, Moral and Legal Aspects. By R. N. C. McCurdy, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Pp. 138. 5s.) London: William Heinemann. 1950.

Asthma. By C. Francis, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Pp. 50. 5s.) London: Heinemann. 1950.

Audiology. By N. Canfield, M.D. (Pp. 45. 13s.) Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

Taschenbuch der Anatomie. By H. Voss and R. Herrlinger. Vol. 1. 3rd ed. (Pp. 343. M. 10.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1950.

A Text-Book of Psychiatry. By Sir D. Henderson, M.D., F.R.F.P.S., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.Ed., and the late R. D. Gillespie. 7th ed. (Pp. 740. 32s. 6d.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1950.

Der Film als Experiment und Heilmethode. By J. Lhotsky and O. Pözl. (Pp. 136. M. 10.) Vienna: Wilhelm Maudrich. 1950.

after their treatment began. He was advised that the methods used by Dr. Voeller combined an intensive rehabilitation course with drug treatment and diet. These methods did not constitute a cure, nor did they introduce any new principles, but in the small sample of cases investigated they modified with varying degrees of success the steady deterioration which was the normal progress of the disease, and encouraged patients to continue their own efforts to improve.

Research on Muscular Dystrophy

Mr. TURTON asked the Lord President of the Council how many persons had been diagnosed as suffering from muscular dystrophy in the last five years and what research was being conducted into this disease.

Mr. HERBERT MORRISON said that the figures were not available. Research on the muscular dystrophies formed an important part of the work of the Medical Research Council's Neurological Research Unit at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London.

Sir RICHARD ACLAND asked if it would be possible to indicate the volume of research being carried on, for example, by saying how much it cost for 12 months.

Mr. MORRISON said no. Members were repeatedly wanting to know how much these things cost, as though that were an accurate measure of successful research. Research could not be measured by money. Brains came into it as well.

Anthrax.—In England, according to the Minister of Agriculture, there were 108 outbreaks of anthrax in 1947, 95 in 1948, and 204 in 1949, and there have been 149 so far this year. Although outbreaks have occurred in the majority of counties they have been most numerous this year in Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire. It is probable that the increased incidence of anthrax is due largely to the increased imports of fertilizers and animal feeding-stuffs from abroad.

Medico-Legal

DERMATITIS FROM HAIR DYE

Appeal Succeeds

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

We recently published a short account of an action in the High Court in which Mr. Justice Croom Johnson awarded £600 damages to a lady who had suffered from dermatitis after a treatment by a hairdresser with "Inecto Rapid" hair dye.¹ The hairdresser said he had known that the dye was dangerous and had warned the customer, but the judge rejected that evidence and found that he had broken his contract to sell her a dye fit for the purpose for which she had bought it. He found the manufacturers, Messrs. Rapidol, guilty of negligence, because, he said, the warning they had given on their packages and in the booklet supplied with the dye had been insufficient and ambiguous.

The Court of Appeal, however, allowed an appeal by the manufacturers. Lord Justice Tucker, giving the court's judgment,² said that he saw no reason for rejecting the evidence of the hairdresser, who had said that he had read the warning and appreciated what it meant. It was therefore impossible to hold that the warning had been insufficient, and it would be unreasonable to expect the manufacturers to give warning in such a form that it must come to the knowledge of the customer who was going to be treated. The manufacturers were awarded the costs of the previous action, but did not ask for the costs of the appeal.

¹British Medical Journal, April 15, 1950, p. 911.

²Manchester Guardian, May 10, 1950.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Congregation held on June 3 the following degrees were conferred:

D.M.—J. M. Rice-Oxley, J. R. O'Brien.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In Congregation on June 8 the honorary degree of D.Sc. was conferred on William Shainline Middleton, Hon.C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., President of the American College of Physicians and Dean of the Medical School of the University of Wisconsin. The honorary degree of D.Litt was conferred on Mr. Stanley Morison, who was largely responsible for the complete change of type-face undertaken by *The Times* in the latter part of 1932 and upon whose recommendation the same type has been used for the *British Medical Journal* since the beginning of 1937.

R. H. Winfield, M.B., B.Chir., has been appointed a member of the committee of management of the Scott Polar Research Institute until December 31, 1953.

The degree of M.D. was conferred on A. G. E. Pearse and A. Miller on June 10.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University has announced that the Wellcome Medal and Prize in the History of Medicine will be awarded in July, 1951, for the best essay on "Hippocrates in the Light of Modern Medicine." The value of the prize is £25. Competitors must have been members of the University Class of the History of Medicine within a period of five years preceding the date of award. Essays must be lodged with the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine on or before May 1, 1951.

The Wellcome Medal and Prize for 1950 has been awarded to Dr. H. P. Tait for his essay on "The Early History of Paediatrics" and will be presented to him at the Graduation Ceremony on July 19.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The title of Professor of Pharmacology in the University has been conferred on John Michael Robson, D.Sc., M.D., in respect of the post held by him at Guy's Hospital Medical School.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

The following candidates for the degrees of M.B., B.Ch. at the Welsh National School of Medicine have satisfied the examiners at the examinations indicated:

SURGERY.—S. I. Davies, *D. W. Evans, A. R. Harris, A. J. Hooper, J. I. Hopkins, T. M. Morgan, T. L. Morris, S. J. S. Polwin, Margaret Pugh, Dilys Rees, J. W. Rees, T. A. I. Rees, D. B. Scourfield, A. P. Thomas.

PHARMACOLOGY.—R. F. Addy, G. V. Browning, Gillian M. Bryant, H. G. Burgess, A. Capstick, Jean E. Clarke, Marian H. Dadaczynski, Marian W. Daniel, E. G. Davies, H. L. S. Davies, Jean M. Davies, Barbara C. Edwards, D. G. Edwards, Barbara M. Evans, Betty Evans, D. L. Evans, Mary E. Ll. Evans, D. W. Foster, Beryl A. Foulger, T. Gunner, Felicity Harris, G. B. Harris, G. Harry, W. R. Henwood, D. R. Hughes, J. Hughes, A. P. Jones, Betty R. Jones, B. Jones, J. F. Jones, T. L. Jones, Margaret Land, D. N. D. Lewis, G. P. Lewis, J. E. Lloyd, Dorothy J. Luck, A. D. Mason, K. C. Parsons, E. B. Phillips, J. Quirk, Edna Rees, O. S. Roath, G. H. Roberts, J. Roberts, Hilda Rosenthal, R. W. Shepherd, A. O. Thomas, Phyllis M. Thomas, I. P. Vaughan, Margaret M. Walker, J. E. Watkin, Elfreda A. Watkins, D. J. Ll. Williams, Elizabeth M. M. Williams, Meriel Williams.

*With distinction.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

The following appointments are announced: *Full-time Demonstrators in Anatomy*, E. J. Clegg, M.B., Ch.B., J. A. Howarth, M.B., Ch.B., and F. R. Johnson, M.D. *Part-time Clinical Teacher in Department of Medicine*, H. F. West, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.T.M. *Part-time Tutor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology*, J. G. Napier, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed., M.R.C.O.G.

A circular from the Ministry of Health reminds hospital boards and committees that they should not employ nurses and midwives whose terms of service, and in particular remuneration, differ from those agreed through the Whitley Council. In exceptional circumstances the Minister may authorize their employment at special rates.

New Journal of Cytology

The International Society for Cell Biology has started publication of a journal entitled *Experimental Cell Research*, the first number of which was dated January, 1950. Four issues will be published a year for 10 dollars. Orders should be sent to the Academic Press Inc., 125 East 23rd Street, New York, 10, U.S.A. The British member of the editorial board is Dr. Honor B. Fell, Strangeways Research Laboratory, Cambridge, to whom authors resident in Britain should submit their manuscripts. The journal will publish papers dealing with the experimental analysis of the activity, structure, and organization of the cell and its sub-units, and also on virus research. Technical or theoretical papers on the development of methods in experimental cytology will also be acceptable.

COMING EVENTS**British Association of Urological Surgeons**

The British Association of Urological Surgeons will hold its Sixth Annual Meeting at Manchester on June 30 to July 1. Full particulars may be obtained from the association at 45, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

British Standards Institution

The annual general meeting of the British Standards Institution will be held on Tuesday, July 11, at 3 p.m., in the Council Room of the institution at 24, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Consultants and Specialists Meeting

The annual general meeting of all consultants and specialists (including those graded S.H.M.O.) in contract with the Regional Hospital Board and the Board of Governors of the Sheffield Region will be held at Pearson House, Nottingham General Hospital, on Saturday, July 8, at 3 p.m.

Italian Medical Meeting

Papers on a variety of medical subjects will be read at a meeting to be held at Verona on July 20-30. Particulars may be obtained from the Giornate Mediche Internazionali, Minerva Medica, Torino, Italy.

Preventive Medicine in South Wales

A conference on preventive medicine in South Wales will be held by the South Wales Branch of the Socialist Medical Association at the Y.M.C.A. Hostel, Rhose, near Barry, on Sunday, July 2. Particulars may be obtained from Mr. L. R. Fletcher, National Council of Labour Colleges, 321, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

A fee is charged for attending lectures marked ●. Application should be made first to the institution concerned.

Saturday

SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE.—At Royal Society of Edinburgh, June 24, 10.45 a.m., papers by Professor R. H. Shryock (Baltimore) and Professor Whitfield Bell (Philadelphia); 2 p.m., pilgrimage to grave of William Cullen, birthplace of Robert Liston, and Priory of Torphichen.

Monday

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY: NATIONAL HOSPITAL, Queen Square, London, W.C.—June 26, 5 p.m., "*Pott's Paraplegia*," by Mr. H. J. Seddon.

MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C., June 26, 5.15 p.m., "*Transfer of Heat and of Vapour Through Clothing*," by Professor A. C. Burton, Ph.D. (University of Western Ontario).

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (Physiology Theatre), Gower Street, London, W.C.—June 26, 4.45 p.m., "*Genetics and Biochemistry*," by Professor J. B. S. Haldane, F.R.S.

Tuesday

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—June 27, 5 p.m., "*Matters Relating to Occupational Dermatoses*," by Dr. R. M. B. MacKenna.

INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, Judd Street, London, W.C.—June 27, 5.30 p.m., "*Standards of Lighting and Visual Hygiene*," by Mr. H. C. Weston.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, London, W.C., June 27, 5.30 p.m., "*Some Recent Studies of Porphyrin Metabolism and Porphyrin*," by Professor C. J. Watson (University of Minnesota).

PADDINGTON MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, W., June 27, 8.45 p.m., annual general meeting. "*Some Problems of General Practice*," discussion to be opened by Dr. L. Zeitline.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—June 27, 5 p.m., "*Current Trends in the Surgical Management of Lesions of the Colon*," Hunterian Lecture by Dr. Arthur W. Allen.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus, London, S.E.—June 27, 4.15 p.m., "*Contact Lenses*," by Dr. C. G. Kay Sharp.

Wednesday

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—June 28, 5 p.m., "*Biochemistry*," by Dr. J. O. Oliver.

MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C., June 28, 5.15 p.m., "*The Science of Field Testing*," by Professor A. C. Burton, Ph.D. (University of Western Ontario).

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus, London, S.E.—June 28, 5.30 p.m., "*The Facies in Disease*," by Mr. L. H. Savin.

Thursday

DREADNOUGHT SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL, Greenwich, S.E.—June 29, 3 p.m., demonstration of surgical cases by Mr. Stephen Power. All medical practitioners interested are invited.

FACULTY OF HOMOEOPATHY.—At Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C., June 29, 5 p.m., "*The Clinical Uses of Electroencephalography*," by Dr. G. Pampligione (Bologna).

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.—At Grocers' Hall, Princes Street, London, E.C., June 29, 7 for 7.30 p.m., The Buckston-Browne-Gray-Hill Dinner.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—June 29, 5 p.m., "*Vitamin-A Deficiency and the Skin*," by Dr. A. D. Porter.

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY: NATIONAL HOSPITAL, Queen Square, London, W.C.—June 29, 5 p.m., "*Neurosurgical Aspects of Vascular Diseases*," by Dr. Ludo Van Bogaert (Antwerp).

INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, Judd Street, London, W.C.—June 29, 5.30 p.m., "*Referred Pain*," by Dr. D. Slome.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus, London, S.E.—June 29, 5.30 p.m., "*Toxoplasmosis*," by Mr. R. P. Crick.

ROYAL SOCIETY, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.—June 29, 4.30 p.m., "*Growth and Plasticity in the Nervous System*," Ferrier Lecture by Professor J. Z. Young, F.R.S.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.—June 29, 4.30 p.m., "*Psychiatry*," lecture-demonstration by Dr. M. A. Partridge.

Friday

MAIDA VALE HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES MEDICAL SCHOOL, Maida Vale, London, W.—June 30, 5 p.m., clinical neurological demonstration, by Dr. Helen Dimsdale.

WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—At West London Hospital, Hammersmith, London, W., June 30, 6 p.m., annual general meeting.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS**BIRTHS**

Davidson.—On May 27, 1950, at Wendover, Bucks. to Veronica, wife of John H. Davidson, M.B., B.S., Squadron Leader, R.A.F., a daughter.

Cartile.—On May 28, 1950, to June (formerly Hillary), wife of Dr. J. P. Cartile, of 467, Earlham Road, Norwich, a daughter.

Clark.—On June 6, 1950, at Rubislaw Nursing Home, Aberdeen, to Constance (formerly Eames), wife of Norman S. Clark, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., a daughter.

Eason.—On May 21, 1950, at Lambeth Hospital, London, S.E., to Ruth Eason (formerly Towler), M.B., Ch.B., wife of Thomas John Eason, F.R.C.S., a son.

Jarratt.—On June 8, 1950, at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E., to Mary (formerly O'Keeffe), wife of Dr. E. W. Jarratt, a daughter.

Lester.—On June 16, 1950, at Solihull, Birmingham, to Mary, wife of Mr. Stephen Lester, F.R.C.S.Ed., a son.

Ormod.—On June 12, 1950, at Boney Hay, Walsall, to Iris, wife of Peter Ormod, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., a son.

Pitt.—On June 13, 1950, at Watford Maternity Home, to Penelope (formerly Reynolds), wife of Dr. Peter Pitt, a daughter.

Winter.—On May 31, 1950, in Bristol, to Mollie, wife of Dr. George Winter, a son—John James.

MARRIAGE

Howe—Schubert.—On June 17, 1950, at Zurich, Switzerland, Marcus Slade Howe, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., of St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, to Eva Erika Schubert, of Zurich, Switzerland.

DEATHS

Biddle.—On June 7, 1950, at Stradbroke, Diss, Norfolk, Henry George Biddle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 83.

Turner.—On May 27, 1950, at a York nursing-home, Henry William Turner, M.C., L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas., of The Grange, Welburn, York.

Walla.—On May 23, 1950, in London, Sohrab Hodi Walla, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas., D.P.H., of 6, Castelnau Mansions, Barnes, London, S.W., formerly of Fulham Palace Road, London, S.W., aged 65.