

The historical and the technical aspects are dealt with faithfully: the literature is reviewed—there are more than 400 references—and the findings and hypotheses put forward by leading authorities are helpfully presented. Dr. Winkelmann indicates, from his own researches, where he is in agreement or where he has reason to differ from current views. He subscribes and pays tribute to the fundamental work of Weddell in Great Britain, particularly in regard to the reception of patterns by the nerve network in the skin in relation to our perception of sensation, as opposed to the conception of specific function attributable to special end-organs. He suggests that, since itching can be produced by chemical means, it is possible that other mild sensory responses are on a chemical basis.

Dr. Winkelmann emphasizes the function of the hair follicle as a sense organ, which is replaced by the mucocutaneous or "genital" end-organs in the neighbourhood of orifices. The black and white illustrations of these anatomical features are of excellent quality. There are useful chapters on the innervation of different skin areas and structures and on the effects of damage or disease of nerves within and outside the skin. There is no convincing evidence of anatomical changes in nerves in association with skin reactions such as eczema, alopecia, and pemphigus. This is a most important and informative work of reference on a difficult subject. It is attractively presented in this slim volume.

J. T. INGRAM.

## HOSPITAL ALMONERS

*The Story of Hospital Almoners. The Birth of a Profession.* By E. Moberly Bell, with a foreword by Sir Ernest Rock Carling, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 160; illustrated. 13s. 6d.) London: Faber and Faber. 1961.

The sub-title of this book, *The Birth of a Profession*, is apt. The work of hospital almoners in the modern sense began at the turn of the century mainly as an effort to reduce congestion in out-patients departments and to check abuse of the services the hospitals offered. The midwife was Charles Lock, the General Secretary of the Charity Organization Society. He was interested in the "reform of the medical charities," and was largely responsible for the pioneer appointment of a lady almoner at the Royal Free Hospital in 1895. A similar appointment was made at the Westminster Hospital in 1899, and by 1903 seven almoners were at work in London hospitals. It was not, however, until 1905 that Anne Cummins was appointed to St. Thomas's Hospital, and much of the book is a biography of this talented lady. In 1909 the Cicely Northcote Trust was set up at St. Thomas's Hospital "to study the social causes of ill health." The endowment came from a grateful patient who had visited the Massachusetts General Hospital, where a social worker had been appointed in 1905.

The hospital almoner's work has long grown away from the idea that it is primarily for the purpose of assessing what incomes prospective patients have and refusing free treatment to those who can afford to pay for it privately. "The almoner's work is an assessment of the patient's needs rather than of the patient's means."

It is a well-written and well-indexed little book which will be read with interest by all concerned with the social aspects of illness.

ALLEN DALEY.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

*Thrombosis and Anticoagulant Therapy. Proceedings of a Symposium arranged by Professor P. A. Öwren, Professor R. B. Hunter, and Dr. W. Walker, and held in Queen's College, Dundee, on 29 and 30 September, and 1 October, 1960.* Edited by W. Walker. (Pp. 106; illustrated. No price.) Dundee: D. C. Thomson and Co. Ltd. Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone. 1961.

*The Transactions of the Hunterian Society, 1959-60.* Honorary Editors: E. F. Stewart and Gordon Sears. (Pp. 151. No price.) London: The Metropolis Press. 1961.

*Advances in Blood Grouping.* By Alexander S. Wiener, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 549+xii; illustrated. \$11.) New York and London: Grune and Stratton. 1961.

*Augenheilkunde. Ein Lehrbuch für Studium und Praxis.* By F. Rintelen. (Pp. 455+xxvii; illustrated. Sw.Fr. 65.) Basle, New York: S. Karger Verlag. 1961.

*The Transactions of the Second Conference on the Health of Executives held in the Royal Festival Hall, London, 24th November 1960.* (Pp. 112. 15s.) London: The Chest and Heart Association, Tavistock House North, London, W.C.1.

*Carcinoma of the Colon.* By Edward G. Muir, M.S., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 181+vii; illustrated. 42s.) London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd. 1961.

*X-Rays. Their Origin, Dosage, and Practical Application.* By W. E. Schall, B.Sc., F.Inst.P., Hon.F.S.R. Eighth edition. (Pp. 348+xi; illustrated. 50s.) Bristol: John Wright and Sons Ltd. 1961.

*Arteriosklerose. Ätiologie, Pathologie, Klinik und Therapie.* Edited by Professor Dr. Gotthard Schettler. (Pp. 728+xvi; illustrated. DM. 98.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1961.

*The Psychological Care of the Child in Hospital.* By Agatha H. Bowley, Ph.D., F.B.Psy.S. (Pp. 47; illustrated. 4s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone, Ltd. 1961.

*Neuroradiology Workshop. Volume 1: Scalp, Skull and Meninges.* By Leo M. Davidoff, M.D., Harold G. Jacobson, M.D., and Harry M. Zimmerman, M.D. (Pp. 256+vii; illustrated. \$16.50.) New York and London: Grune and Stratton. 1961.

*Synovial Joints. Their Structure and Mechanics.* By C. H. Barnett, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., D. V. Davies, M.A., M.B., B.S., and M. A. MacConaill, M.B., D.Sc., M.R.I.A. (Pp. 304+xi; illustrated. 50s.) London: Longmans. 1961.

*Britain's Search for Health. The First Decade of the National Health Service.* By Paul F. Gemmill. (Pp. 171. 32s.) Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1961.

*Cardiopercardiomyopexy. New Surgical Treatment for Heart Diseases.* By Dr. Aaron N. Gorelik in collaboration with Professor Camille Lian, Professor Louis Thieblot, Dr. Mendel Jacobi, Dr. Ralph Ricciardi, and Dr. Madeleine Hascher. (Pp. 176+xiv; illustrated. No price.) New York: Myopexy Association Inc. 1961.

*Conquering Your Allergy.* By Boen Swinny, M.D. Introduction by C. J. C. Britton, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Pp. 127. 12s. 6d.) London: Hammond, Hammond and Company. 1961.

*La Radiculographie Lombo-Sacrée par Substance Iodée Hydro-soluble et Resorbable.* By Jacques Ferrand, Jean Robert D'Eshougues, Jacques Barsotti. (Pp. 108; illustrated. Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique Française. 1961.

*Primer Congreso Peruano de Neuro-Psiquiatria. 3 al 7 de Noviembre de 1958, Lima-Peru.* (Pp. 197-508; illustrated. No price.) 1961.

*The Day Hospital Movement in Great Britain.* By James Farndale, B.Com., F.H.A., M.R.S.H. (Pp. 430; illustrated. 84s.) London: Pergamon Press. 1961.

*The Person Symbol in Clinical Medicine.* By Robert Cohn, M.D. (Pp. 196; illustrated. 80s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1961.

*Les Ictères Postopératoires Précoces.* By F. Poilleux and A. Kapandji. (Pp. 107; illustrated. NF. 14.) Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique Française. 1961.

*Les Ulcères de Jambe de Cause Circulatoire.* By Pierre Gerard. (Pp. 76; illustrated. NF. 50.) Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique Française. 1961.

**People in the News**

Professor A. C. FRAZER, professor of medical biochemistry and pharmacology at Birmingham University, has been invited to become a member of the Agricultural Research Council.

Dr. C. MANDERS, Ph.D., has been appointed to the newly created post of scientific attaché to the British Embassy in Tokio to advise on scientific matters and report on Japanese scientific and technical developments in the civil field.

Dr. R. CONRAD, Ph.D., assistant director of the Medical Research Council's Applied Psychology Research Unit, Cambridge, has been appointed consultant in applied psychology to the Post Office for an initial period of two years.

Professor RAGNAR GRANIT, head of the neurology department, Nobel Institute, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, has been awarded the Anders Jahre prize for 1961. The prize, given by a Norwegian shipowner, is worth £5,000.

**COMING EVENTS**

**Institute of Dermatology.**—Exhibition, June 1–29, by Dr. E. J. MOYNAHAN, "Biology of the Skin Surface," St. John's Hospital for Diseases of Skin, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London W.C.2.

**Birmingham Medical Exhibition.**—June 12–16, Princes Hall, Broad Street, Birmingham. Details from the Organizer at that address.

**West London Medico-Chirurgical Society.**—Annual banquet, June 15, 7.30 p.m., restaurant, Zoological Society, Regent's Park, London N.W.1. Tickets (35s.) from Society's Honorary Secretaries, West London Hospital, Hammersmith, London W.6.

**5th Oliver Bird Lecture.**—Dr. A. S. PARKES, F.R.S., "The Biological Control of Conception," June 20, 5 p.m. See advertisement p. 54.

**Sir Halley Stewart Trust Lecture.**—Dr. R. A. BUTLER (Sir Halley Stewart Research Fellow, Royal College of Surgeons of England), "Some Problems of the Pharmacokinetics of Anaesthetics," June 22, 5.30 p.m., Lecture Theatre, Wright-Fleming Institute, St. Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, London W.2. Free, no tickets.

**Central Council for Health Education.**—Summer school in health education, "Education for Living," August 15–25, Neuadd Reichel, University College of North Wales, Bangor. Sir JOHN CHARLES, "Public Health Trends in Present-day Britain." Fee £24 4s. Details from C.C.H.E., Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London W.C.1. (EUSTon 3341–5.)

**Congress of International Society of Surgery and International Cardiovascular Society.**—Dublin, September 2–9. Details from Mr. H. O'NEILL, 16 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

**10th International Congress on Rheumatic Diseases.**—Rome, September 4–7. Details from Professor C. B. BALLABIO, Clinica Medica Generale, 35 Via F. Sforza, Milan, Italy.

**4th International Congress of Angiology.**—Prague, September 4–9. Organized by Union Internationale d'Angiologie de Paris. Main theme: "Metabolism of the Vascular Wall." Details from Professor Dr. ZDENEK REINIS, IVth Medical Clinic, Prague 2/499, Czechoslovakia.

**University of Sheffield.**—Refresher course for general practitioners, beginning September 25. See advertisement p. 54.

**W.H.O., Food and Agriculture Organization of U.N., International Atomic Energy Agency.**—International conference, "Uses of Radioisotopes in Animal Biology and the Medical Sciences," Mexico City, November 21–December 1. Details from sponsoring organizations.

**SOCIETIES AND LECTURES**

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

**Monday, June 5**

**INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—At British Institute of Radiology, (1) 4 p.m., Dr. L. Szur: Radiotherapy of Malignant Skin Conditions (II). (2) 5 p.m., Mr. I. Muir: Reconstructive Surgery and Malignant Disease. **POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.**—4 p.m., Dr. J. Sharp: Ankylosing and Rheumatoid Spondylitis.

**Tuesday, June 6**

**INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Professor R. S. Speirs: Role of Eosinophils in Inflammation. **MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—At Clinical Lecture Theatre (first-floor cross-piece), 4.15 p.m., Sanderson Wells Lecture by Sir William Ogg: Soil, Crop Nutrition, and Health. **ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—At Wright-Fleming Institute, 5 p.m., Mr. Frank Musgrove: Impressions of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in America. **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON: DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY.**—At Physiology Theatre, Gower Street, W.C., 5.30 p.m., public lecture by Dr. G. P. Lewis: Bradykinin—its Chemistry, Pharmacology, and Role in Physiological and Pathological Reactions.

**Wednesday, June 7**

**BROOK GENERAL HOSPITAL, Shooters Hill, London S.E.**—5.45 p.m., Dr. L. Morris: Cerebral Angiography. **INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Dr. R. W. Riddell: World Distribution of Fungus Infections. **INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.**—5 p.m., open lecture by Dr. W. M. Macleod: Abnormal Transradiance of One Lung. **INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Dr. I. Friedmann, Dr. D. A. Osborn, and Dr. A. L. Jeanes: clinical pathological conference. **MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF GENERAL PRACTICE.**—4 p.m., clinical meeting. Visit to Department of Clinical Pathology, Manchester Royal Infirmary. **POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.**—2 p.m., Dr. P. Wildy: Architecture of Viruses. **ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, London W.C.**—5.15 p.m., Sir Horace Smirk (Dunedin): Pathogenesis and Management of Hypertension.

**Thursday, June 8**

**HONYMAN GILLESPIE LECTURES.**—At Anatomy Theatre, University New Buildings, Teviot Place, Edinburgh, 5 p.m., Dr. J. A. Tulloch: Occurrence of Diabetes Mellitus in the Tropics. **POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.**—4 p.m., Dr. Raymond Daley: Arteritis. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.**—5.15 p.m., Lord James: Education of the Scientist. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—5 p.m., Hunterian Lecture by Professor I. Ranger: Study of the Functional Anatomy of the Diaphragm, with special reference to the Aetiology and Treatment of Oesophageal Hiatus Hernia. **ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—5 p.m., Dr. Desmond Curran: postgraduate demonstration in psychiatry.

**Friday, June 9**

**INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.**—5 p.m., Dr. N. C. Oswald and Mr. O. S. Tubbs: clinical demonstration. **POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.**—(1) 10 a.m., Mr. G. C. Tresidder: Some Urological Operations; (2) 4 p.m., Sir Horace Smirk: Hypertension—Treatment and Pathogenesis.

**Saturday, June 10**

**CHILTERN MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—(1) At High Wycombe Hospital, 4.30 for 5 p.m., annual oration. (2) At Bellhouse Hotel, Beaconsfield, 7.30 for 8 p.m., annual dinner.

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS****BIRTHS**

**Davies.**—On May 3, 1961, at St. David's Hospital, Cardiff, Glam., to Rhianon, wife of Dr. John L. Davies, a brother for Peter and Patricia—Jonathan.

**Krikler.**—On May 17, 1961, at 5 Chelmsford Road, Avondale, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, to Hanneliese (formerly Winterstein), wife of Dennis Michael Krikler, M.B., M.R.C.P., a son—Paul Alan.

**DEATHS**

**Abercrombie.**—On May 14, 1961, at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, Yorks, Rodolph George Abercrombie, M.D., D.T.M.

**Agnew.**—On May 11, 1961, Alexander Percy Agnew, M.B., C.M., aged 91.

**Browne.**—On May 18, 1961, at her home, Bournstream, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos, Enid Marjorie Moore Browne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Chester-Williams.**—On May 12, 1961, at his home, 24 North Park Road, Bradford, Yorks, Frank Edward Chester-Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.F.R.

**Coles.**—On May 12, 1961, at Brown Leaves, 4 Fairfield Road, Uxbridge, Middx, Bennett Alsop Coles, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Collins.**—On May 15, 1961, at Broadlands, 35 Thorpe Road, Peterborough, John Norton Collins, M.D., aged 92.

**Davies.**—On May 17, 1961, at the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, Hants, Ronald Martyn Davies, M.B., B.S., Lieutenant-Colonel, R.A.M.C., retired, of Rushy Close, Dogmersfield, Hants, aged 78.

**Greenwood-Penny.**—On May 16, 1961, at St. Michael's Hospital, Hayle, Cornwall, Sydney Augustus Greenwood-Penny, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Trewynn, Marazion, Cornwall.

**Hutton.**—On May 11, 1961, the result of a road accident, Samuel King Hutton, M.D., L.H.D., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

**Twort.**—On May 7, 1961, at Frimley Hospital, Frimley, Aldershot, Hants, John Ferdinand Twort, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.S., of Hurstwood, Camberley, Surrey, aged 80.

**Wharton.**—On May 9, 1961, Edgar Wharton, M.B., Ch.B., of The Orchard, Thorncliffe Drive, Cheltenham, Glos, aged 80.