

ment of only two or three lines. It is doubtful if in many instances the author will be able to satisfy either. By far the largest sections of the book are devoted to tumours of the bone and tumours of the skin, which occupy 73 pages and 54 pages respectively. By contrast tumours of the central nervous system and the chapter on the leukaemias and lymphomas, both concerned with neoplastic disorders which are common in childhood, have been allocated only 23 pages each. The tumours have been classified according to the system involved or to the site of origin. As a result the embryonic tumours of children appear separately under the appropriate organ.

The book is well illustrated, and there are over 300 photomicrographs and radiographs as well as three plates in colour. Some of the photomicrographs are of the highest quality and are well chosen. Others, however, are so darkly printed as to be virtually useless, and too many appear to be out of focus. The bibliography is extensive, well selected, and reasonably up to date.

This volume is very readable and can be recommended to those working in this field. They should be prepared, however, to dig more deeply if they have a particular problem in mind.

A. E. CLAIREAUX.

## Obstetric Forceps

**Forceps Deliveries.** By Edward H. Dennen, M.D. (Pp. 239; illustrated. 52s.) Philadelphia: F. A. Davis. Oxford: Blackwell. 1964.

There is no substitute for experience in the development of skill in the use of the obstetric forceps, but this experience should be founded on a proper understanding of the forceps and a rationale in its use. For this the student is most dependent on his teachers, but in his reading he will find the average obstetric textbook rather meagre in implicit instructions on forceps delivery.

In this book the author attempts to fill the deficiency. Beginning with the classical instruments of the Elliot and Simpson types he describes in detail the various forceps in present-day use in America, gives their indi-

cations, and tells how to use them—his thesis being that there is an instrument of choice for each situation.

The general principles of forceps delivery are discussed fully. In his detailed account of the Kielland forceps the author advocates the classical rather than the "wandering" method of application of the anterior blade as standard. Unfortunately, the British reader will not find much reference to some of his favourite instruments, such as the Haig Ferguson or Barnes Neville forceps, but rather to their American counterparts, and this must detract from the value of the book for him. It is a little disappointing to find only brief reference to anaesthesia for forceps delivery—mainly the expression of a preference for general anaesthesia. Rather surprisingly, too, there is no account of the history of the obstetric forceps.

M. P. EMBREY.

## Clinical Pathology

**Clinical Interpretation of Laboratory Tests.** 5th edition. By Raymond H. Goodale, M.D. (Pp. 785+xviii; illustrated. 92s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1964.

This is a handbook of clinical pathology for medical students, physicians, and medical technologists. It follows conventional lines and covers haematology, bacteriology, parasitology, and chemical pathology. The first half of the book deals with the subject from the laboratory viewpoint. It includes, for example, chapters on blood chemistry, serology, blood groups, urine, gastric and duodenal contents, sputum and saliva, tests for allergy and immunity, and toxicological examinations. A more clinical approach is used in the second part of the book, where the subject matter is arranged on the basis of organ systems and diseases. The results of numerous laboratory examinations are discussed in detail, but little attention is paid to the methods of examination themselves, and this does have some bearing on the clinician's final assessment of laboratory data, particularly in the field of chemical pathology. The book is written from the point of view of the pathologist, and the author's attempts to summarize relevant information on clinical

and physiological topics do not always stand critical appraisal. This is particularly unfortunate in a book which is written at least in part for readers with little experience in these fields.

Though the continued popularity of the book has demanded a new edition, the reviewer feels that the opportunities which this offered have not been fully exploited. The fact that most of the references are to papers published before the early 1950s may be a significant observation in this respect.

R. W. E. WATTS.

## Electrical Activity of Brain

**Neurological and Electroencephalographic Correlative Studies in Infancy.** Edited by Peter Kellaway and Ingemar Petersen. (Pp. 364+x; illustrated. \$14.15.) New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1964.

This volume constitutes the proceedings of a symposium held in Houston, Texas, last year, dealing with the ontogenetic development of the electrical activity of the brain and the correlation of this activity with physical and behavioural development. A third of the 21 papers refer to observations on young animals of various sorts, the rest on human infants. The most interesting to medical readers are those that discuss the correlates of infantile convulsions at the time and later. The trouble with the interpretation of the electroencephalogram in infancy is that the immature record changes so rapidly with maturation, matures variably in different children, and changes with alterations in alertness, so that correlations are notoriously difficult to establish—hence the conference.

Of course the main difficulty is that changes in cerebral potential reflect crude biological activities of cells, and so would not be expected to relate at all closely to the personal or social activity of the whole organism. It has indeed been most fortunate for the clinical worker that so many aspects of these electrical changes relate to the behavioural evidences of epilepsy; outside that field the search is still a pretty barren one.

DENIS WILLIAMS.

## Books Received

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

**Die Beinlängenunterschiede.** By W. Taillard and E. Morscher. Foreword by Hans Debrunner. (Pp. 151+v; illustrated. DM. 35.) Basel and New York: S. Karger. 1965.

**Précis de Pathologie Médicale.** Vol. 2. Sang—Peau. By Henri Péquignot *et al.* (Pp. 473; illustrated. 50 F.) Paris: Masson. 1964.

**Précis de Pathologie Médicale.** Vol. 3. Oesophage — Estomac — Intestin — Pancréas — Voies Biliaires—Foie. By Henri Péquignot *et al.* (Pp. 761; illustrated. 76 F.) Paris: Masson. 1964.

**Précis de Pathologie Médicale.** Vol. 4. Glandes Endocrines—Os—Articulations. By Henri Péquignot *et al.* (Pp. 442; illustrated. 50 F.) Paris: Masson. 1964.

**Urologic Injuries in Gynecology.** Including Vesicovaginal Fistula, Stress Incontinence and Ureteral Injuries. By Henry C. Falk, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 299; illustrated. 72s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1964.

**Skin Diseases in Africa.** Essay in Epidemiology. By James Marshall, M.D.(London). (Pp. 134+x; illustrated. R.3.) Capetown: Maskew Miller. 1964.

**Histochemistry of the Skin—Psoriasis.** Monograph on Normal and Parakeratotic Epidermal Keratinization with Special Reference to Psoriasis and its Treatment. By A. Jarrett, M.B., M.C.Path., F.R.C.P.(Edin.), and R. I. C. Spearman, B.Sc., Ph.D.(Lond.), M.I.Biol. (Pp. 115+xi; illustrated. 25s.) London: English Universities Press. 1965.

**Probleme de Tuberculoza.** Vol. 4. Ministerul Sanatatii si Prevederilor Sociale. Institutul Clinic de Fiziologie. (Pp. 317; illustrated. No price given.) Bucharest: Editura Medicala. 1964.

**Synopsis of Anaesthesia.** 5th edition. By J. Alfred Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A., and R. S. Atkinson, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., F.F.A.R.C.S. (Pp. 774; illustrated. 37s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright. 1964.

**History of Malvern.** By Brian S. Smith. (Pp. 292+xi; illustrated. 30s.) Worcester: Leicester University Press. 1964.

**Child Health in the Tropics.** 2nd edition. Practical Handbook for Medical and Paramedical Personnel. Edited by D. B. Jelliffe, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.A.P.H.A., D.C.H., D.T.M.&H. (Pp. 152+v. 9s.) London: Edward Arnold. 1964.

**Blood Program in World War II.** By Brig.-Gen. Douglas B. Kendrick, M.C., U.S.A. Under direction of Lieutenant-General Leonard D. Heaton, Surgeon-General, U.S. Army. (Pp. 992+xxxvii; illustrated. No price given.) Washington: Office of the Surgeon-General Department of the Army. 1964.