

between the clinical picture of all forms of meningitis he does not describe the variations in therapy which different aetiological agents require. As a result the inexperienced person brought face to face with a case of meningitis is given little help in its immediate management. Again, in discussing the treatment of enteric fever, he states that "very good results, however, have been reported from penicillin coupled with the sulphonamides" and that "streptomycin promises very well." Apart altogether from any discussion of the efficacy of such methods of treatment, which the author might argue was outside the scope of the book, surely it is essential to be precise, especially with the former, about dosage and spacing of treatment. Dr. Breen disarms us in his introduction when he comments on previous criticism that the book does not contain enough for the student by suggesting that there is enough theory to meet his needs, yet it is not simply a lack of theory but a dearth of practical advice which disappoints. We can sympathize with him in his feeling that colour photographs can be misleading, but his own colour representations are not free from the same faults.

THOMAS ANDERSON.

A PIONEER

Truby King the Man. By Mary King. (Pp. 355; illus. 18s.) London: George Allen and Unwin. 1948.

A biography of Sir Frederic Truby King by his adopted daughter, Mary King, is welcome. In this book she describes his early life in New Zealand, his medical studies in Edinburgh, and his return to his native country. There he first of all completely reorganized the work of a mental hospital and in doing so became interested in farming and the rearing of domestic animals. His health was never too good in those early days, and he and his devoted wife went on special leave to Japan. He became especially interested there in the widespread practice of breast feeding—a contrast with what was happening in other parts of the world, where rearing on the bottle was becoming more and more popular. Returning to New Zealand, he began his campaign to promote natural feeding. The chapter describing this attempts to build a bridge between Truby King's two main interests, but the statement that he had observed that "a very large proportion of the mental patients under his care had been bottle fed" is really too naive.

The development of the educational system of "mothercraft" continued, mainly through specially trained nurses, and the results in New Zealand are now well known. Missionary work in London was less successful, and Miss King presents the controversial aspects of Truby King's views on bottle-feeding formulas as if he must have been right and almost every other paediatrician in the English-speaking world thoroughly wrong. However, this attitude does not loom large enough to spoil the book. What Truby King taught on managing the infant, on prenatal care, and on the supreme importance of breast feeding was of fundamental and lasting value. How he did this, with the constant help of his wife, though harassed by ill-health and continual financial anxiety, is a good story and it has been well told.

ALAN MONCRIEFF.

Bell's *Textbook of Pathology* (sixth edition; Henry Kimpton: 50s.) has an established reputation. One of its merits is its manageable size in spite of a remarkable amount of factual information being packed between its covers by the liberal use of the short simple sentence and full-stop. There is little discussion or speculation on debatable subjects and, what is rather more important, no serious or sustained attempt to correlate abnormal function with abnormal structure, or clinical signs and symptoms with pathological changes. These criticisms apply to the scope of the book; as a reliable guide to the hard facts of morbid anatomy and histology we can heartily recommend it. The illustrations, apart from some of the drawings, are of excellent quality and well chosen, and a special feature is the list of selected references accompanying each chapter. Most British pathologists would not agree that "most of the severe endemics of streptococcal sore throat have been shown to be due to milk-borne infection, the milk being contaminated from streptococcal mastitis in the dairy cows" (p. 171), and acute yellow atrophy of the liver can hardly be described as a "form of fatty liver" (p. 100).

BOOKS RECEIVED

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

La Dénutrition. By M. Lamy and others. (Pp. 407. 1,150 francs.) Paris: G. Doin. 1948.

An account of the pathology, symptomatology, and treatment of malnutrition.

Molecular Architecture and the Processes of Life. By L. Pauling, B.S., M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 13. 1s. 6d.) Nottingham: University. 1948.

The Sir Jesse Boot Foundation lecture for 1948.

Die Hypertrophie und das Carcinom der Prostata. By T. Hryntschak. Vol. 4. (Pp. 125. Sch. 35.) Vienna: Wilhelm Maudrich. 1948.

A practical manual giving clinical and operative details.

Lehrbuch der Spirometrischen Analytik und Diagnostik. By R. Exner. (Pp. 308. Sch. 80.) Vienna: Wilhelm Maudrich. 1948.

Investigations into the air capacity of the lungs in various diseases.

La Streptomycine. Étude expérimentale et thérapeutique. By A. Abaza. (Pp. 94. 220 francs.) Paris: G. Doin. 1948.

A study of the pharmacology and the therapeutic uses of streptomycin.

A Textbook of Gynaecology. By W. Shaw, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. 5th ed. (Pp. 660. 25s.) London: J. and A. Churchill. 1948.

This well-known textbook for students and practitioners has been "drastically revised."

Streptomycin und Tuberkulose. By G. Fanconi, W. Löffler, and others. (Pp. 357. 30 Swiss francs.) Basle: Benno Schwabe. 1948.

Papers on the treatment of meningeal, miliary, and pulmonary tuberculosis with streptomycin.

Les Varices de la Grossesse. By R. Tournay and P. Wallois. (Pp. 139. 250 francs.) Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique. 1948.

A manual on the treatment of varicose veins in pregnant women.

Éléments de Médecine Aéronautique. By R. Grandpierre and others. (Pp. 502. 1,200 francs.) Paris: L'Expansion Scientifique. 1948.

Includes sections on the prevention of disorders due to flying and on transporting the sick.

Methodenlehre der Therapeutisch-Klinischen Forschung. By P. Martini. (Pp. 198. M. 18.) Berlin: Springer-Verlag. 1948

A general discussion of research methods in therapeutics

Crystalline Enzymes. By J. H. Northrop and others. 2nd ed. (Pp. 352. 42s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1948.

Describes the chemistry and isolation of proteolytic enzymes and the bacteriophage.

Hemostatic Agents. By W. H. Seegers, M.S., Ph.D., and E. A. Sharp, M.D., Sc.D. (Pp. 131. 25s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1948.

An account of blood coagulance with particular reference to thrombin, fibrinogen, and absorbable cellulose.

Essentials of Public Health. By W. P. Shepard, B.S., M.D., M.A., and others. (Pp. 600. 30s.) London: Lippincott. 1948.

An outline of the subject intended for students and general practitioners.

Deep Massage and Manipulation Illustrated. By J. Cyriax, M.D., B.Ch. 3rd ed. (Pp. 278. 17s. 6d.) London: Hamish Hamilton Medical Books. 1948.

A profusely illustrated manual for physiotherapists.

Die Funktionelle Organisation des Vegetativen Nervensystems. By W. R. Hess. (Pp. 226. 18.50 Swiss francs.) Basle: Benno Schwabe. 1948.

A monograph on the physiology of the autonomic nervous system, with discussion of experimental work.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

Monday

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.—At Talbot Restaurant, 64, London Wall, E.C., Dec. 20, 7 for 7.30 p.m., dinner. 8.30 p.m., discussion: "*Toxic Jaundice*," to be opened by Professor John McMichael and Dr. Alice M. Stewart.

Tuesday

EDINBURGH POSTGRADUATE BOARD FOR MEDICINE.—At Edinburgh Royal Infirmary (West Medical Lecture Theatre), Dec. 21, 5 p.m. "*Nutrition in Europe During the War and After*," by Dr. A. P. Meiklejohn.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, 5, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—Dec. 21, 5 p.m. "*Cutaneous Reticuloendothelioses*," by Dr. F. Ray Bettley.

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—At St. Paul's Hospital, Endell Street, London, W.C., Dec. 21, 11 a.m. "*Aetiology and Diagnosis of Gonorrhoea*," by Dr. W. N. Mascall.

Wednesday

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—At St. Paul's Hospital, Endell Street, London, W.C., Dec. 22, 11 a.m. "*Pathology of Gonorrhoea*," by Dr. A. H. Harkness.

Thursday

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—At St. Paul's Hospital, Endell Street, London, W.C., Dec. 23, 11 a.m. "*Signs, Symptoms, and Asymptomatic Carrier State of Gonorrhoea*," by Dr. A. H. Harkness.

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. S. L. A. Manuwa has been appointed Deputy Director of Medical Services in Nigeria.

- BURNETT, J. S. G., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Preston.
CARTER-LOCKE, H. B. C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Bromley, Kent.
FREEMAN, P., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Chatham.
KAHN, J. H., M.D., D.P.M., Psychiatrist, Child Guidance Clinic, Huddersfield.
LAWRENCE, I. B., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer for Dorset and Medical Officer of Health, Portland.
MENON, U. K., M.B., B.S., D.T.M., Resident Medical Officer, Oakwood Hall Sanatorium, Rotherham.
NEVIN, MARY E., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H., Medical Officer, North London Region, Ministry of Pensions.
ROBINSON, MARGARET M. F., M.D., D.P.H., School Medical Officer, Kettering.
RONALD, JAMES, M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed., Consultant Physician, Scottish Northern Regional Hospital Board.
TAYLOR, G. H., M.D., D.P.H., Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer, Warwickshire.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Franklin.—On Dec. 8, 1948, to Margaret, wife of Dr. C. B. Franklin, a son.
Tighe.—On Nov. 30, 1948, at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, to Nora (née Cregan), S.R.N., S.C.M., wife of Dr. Robert Tighe, of 101, Ashted Row, Birmingham a daughter—Maureen Elizabeth.

MARRIAGES

Griffiths-Meigh.—On Nov. 6, 1948, at St. James's Church, Bradford, Alan Lampen Griffiths, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.C.H., of Larne, to Gladys Audrey Meigh, B.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., of Bradford.
Mumford-Mackenzie.—On Nov. 27, 1948, at St. John the Evangelist's Church, Blackheath, Wilfred Bardwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Mumford, of Boscombe, to Ruth, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mackenzie, of Blackheath.

DEATHS

Blayney.—On Dec. 4, 1948, at 31, Tudor Drive, Watford, William Blayney, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Bradley.—On Dec. 3, 1948, at Greville House, Raynes Park, Wimbledon, S.W., James Edmund Campbell Bradley, M.B., B.Ch., aged 84.
Callender.—On Dec. 2, 1948, as the result of a cycling accident, Constance Muriel Callender, O.B.E., L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas., of Kingsdown, Deal, late of Minia, Egypt.
Davis.—On Dec. 2, 1948, at White Lodge, Sonning-on-Thames, John James Davis, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 43.
Durbidge.—On Dec. 3, 1948, at Newport Pagnell, Henry Durbidge, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., formerly of Matlock, Derbyshire, aged 77.
Henderson.—On Dec. 1, 1948, at 83, Hepburn Gardens, St. Andrews, Fife, George Edward Walker Henderson, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas.
Horsley.—On Dec. 2, 1948, at Hackney Hospital, London, E., Lancelot Horsley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of 27, Gloucester Place, London, W.
McKenna.—On Dec. 2, 1948, at Greystones Nursing Home, Prestwick, Fergus McKenna, M.B., C.M.Glas., of Doune, Alloway, Ayr.
Stewart.—On Dec. 4, 1948, in a London Hospital, Sir Edward Stewart, K.B.E., M.D., of Bullards, East Grinstead, Sussex, late vice-chairman B.R.C.S., aged 91.
Turner.—On Dec. 9, 1948, James William Turner, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Wilson.—On Nov. 30, 1948, at Linton, Cambridge, Hugh Mundle Wilson, M.B., Ch.B.Glas., aged 63.

Any Questions?

Correspondents should give their names and addresses (not for publication) and include all relevant details in their questions, which should be typed. We publish here a selection of those questions and answers which seem to be of general interest.

Vitamin B Supplements

Q.—There seems to be an increasing tendency to consider that children of 1 to 5 years are not adequately fed unless their normal diet is supplemented by proprietary preparations containing vitamins. Taking the vitamin-B group, could you please advise on the following points: (1) Is any reliable information available regarding the needs of normal children aged between 1 and 5? (2) Is there adequate evidence that such children run any risk under present conditions of vitamin-B shortage? (3) Is there evidence that a child already receiving an adequate amount of vitamin B in a normal mixed diet derives benefit from additional intake of vitamin B (apart, of course, from the few additional calories)?

A.—(1) The "Recommended Dietary Allowances" published by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, U.S.A. (Washington, D.C., revised 1945), include the following figures:

	Vitamin B ₁	Riboflavin	Nicotinic Acid
Children aged 1 to 3 ..	mg. 0.6	mg. 0.9	mg. 6
" " 4 to 6 ..	0.8	1.2	8

The League of Nations "Report on Vitamin Requirements" (*Bull. Hlth Org., L.O.N.*, 1938, 7, 460) gives 200 to 250 i.u. (=0.6 to 0.75 mg.) of vitamin B₁ per day as the amount "probably sufficient for nursery-school children." This is in good agreement with the American estimate. The other vitamins of the B group are not considered individually in the League of Nations report. It is worth noting that the American figures are "recommended allowances" and not "minimum requirements": that is, they appear to allow an ample margin for safety as well as for individual variation. In any case, the reputed requirements of these B vitamins of young children of 1 to 5 were based more on broad estimates than on any precise determinations.

(2) Little work has been published in Britain about the vitamin intakes of children between 1 and 5 years old. In a recent survey Bransby and Magee (*British Medical Journal*, 1947, 1, 525) estimated the average intakes of vitamin B₁ derived from rations and allowances to be as follows:

	mg.
Children of 1 year ..	0.77
" 2 to 3 years ..	0.74
" 4 years ..	0.92

Children of 1 to 5, according to these authors, actually had on the whole a better provision of most nutrients than had almost any other age. In fact, other groups of the population were thought to make up any relative deficiencies from out of the "family pool"—that is, from the "surplus" allowed to children between 1 and 5.

(3) Of course, if it be accepted that the normal mixed diet is already "adequate," obviously no advantage is to be expected from increasing the intake by the use of supplements. It must be admitted that, so far as Great Britain is concerned, there have been few if any direct scientific data on the possible benefit to health of supplements rich in B vitamins for normal children of 1 to 5 years. In America, however, groups of under-weight children, tuberculous children, and others have sometimes been found to benefit when given extra vitamin B in the form of wheat germ, cereal preparations, yeast, or vitamin-B concentrates (Summerfeldt, *Amer. J. Dis. Child.*, 1932, 43, 284; Ross and Summerfeldt, *ibid.*, 1935, 49, 485; Joslin and Helms, *Arch. Pediat.*, 1937, 54, 533). Similar claims have been made for