

NEONATAL MORTALITY

Fetal and Neonatal Death. By Edith L. Potter, M.D., Ph.D., and F. L. Adair, M.D. Revised edition. (Pp. 173; illustrated. £1 10s.) Illinois, Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Great Britain and Ireland: Cambridge University Press. 1949.

All those concerned with the care of the newborn baby have used "Potter and Adair" since it first appeared in 1940. A new and revised edition, which incorporates new work on the Rhesus factor and the effect of rubella upon the foetus, is therefore most welcome. It is of great importance to consider stillbirths as well as neonatal deaths to gain a complete picture of loss of life at this period, and the study of the problem in the necropsy-room or as an exercise in statistics is well described. It is inevitable that the references should be almost entirely to American literature, and it seems strange to find respiratory difficulties at birth discussed without any reference to Barcroft's work. It would be a fascinating task to relate the United States statistics to those of other countries, as Professor C. McNeil did with his Scottish figures in 1942.

The authors' approach to a subject which still requires much exploration is essentially that of pathologists. As will be gathered, the effect of this monograph upon the reviewer is to make him eager to see it much enlarged: it is excellent as far as it goes.

ALAN MONCRIEFF.

PATHOGENESIS OF INFECTION

Klinische Infektionslehre. By Professor Felix O. Höring. Second edition. (Pp. 245. M. 18.) Berlin: Springer. 1948.

Professor Höring's *Clinical Study of Infection* is an unusual book. It is an attempt to bridge the gap between bacteriology and immunity on the one hand and clinical medicine on the other. It is not a textbook or a monograph, but rather an essay with pathological physiology as its central theme. Health and illness are taken as abstractions; the host and the parasite are the only concrete realities. The author revolts from the concept of disease resulting from the blind operation of chance, something imposed on the host from outside. The individual cannot be thought of apart from his environment. The relation of the host to the parasite is not one of enmity but essentially an attempt at mutual adaptation with symbiosis as its goal. Medical bacteriology is therefore merely a branch of oecology.

Starting from this thesis, the author examines the different reactions of tissues to the parasite, classifying them into normal, anergic, and hyperergic. He then divides all infectious diseases into three categories: (a) the cyclical diseases characterized by a predictable course—incubation period, period of generalization, period of localization in the organs; (b) the local diseases, characterized by a focus of inflammation that spreads only by direct continuity and pursues an irregular course; and (c) the septic diseases, characterized by an inflammatory focus that is in direct communication with the blood stream, thus enabling the particular types of parasite associated with these diseases to give rise to generalized manifestations. Further subdivision follows, and ten possible courses are described for the infectious process. Each of the infectious diseases is then briefly examined, and classified according to its pathogenesis into one or other of the numerous theoretical categories laid down.

This form of abstractive treatment is perhaps more congenial to the Teutonic than the English mentality, but both clinicians and bacteriologists may find something stimulating in the author's method of approach to a well-worn subject.

G. S. WILSON.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received

Sight Light and Efficiency. By H. C. Weston (Pp. 308. 42s.) London: Lewis. 1949.

The Biology of Mental Defect. By L. S. Penrose, M.A., M.D. Preface by J. B. S. Haldane, F.R.S (Pp. 285. 21s.) London: Sidgwick and Jackson. 1949.

The Theory of Inbreeding. By R. A. Fisher, Sc.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 120. 10s. 6d.) London: Oliver and Boyd. 1949.

Living Through the Older Years. Edited by C. Tibbitts. Foreword by E. J. Soop. (Pp. 193. 16s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1949.

Magnetism. By D. Shoenberg, Ph.D. (Pp. 216. 10s. 6d.) London: Sigma. 1949.

Sinuhe the Egyptian. By M. Waltari. Translated by N. Walford. (Pp. 503. 12s. 6d.) London: Putnam. 1949.

Infant Nutrition—Its Physiological Basis. By F. W. Clements, M.D., D.P.H. (Pp. 246. 21s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1949.

Clinical Audiology. By M. Saltzman, M.D. Introduction by G. M. Coates, M.D. Foreword by M. S. Ernsner, M.D. (Pp. 195. \$5.) New York: Grune and Stratton. 1949.

Clinical Diagnosis by Laboratory Examinations. By J. A. Kolmer, M.D. 2nd ed. (Pp. 1,212. \$12.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1949.

Acute Laryngotracheobronchitis. By A. H. Neffson M.D. (Pp. 197. \$5.) New York: Grune and Stratton. 1949.

Fundamental Considerations in Anesthesia. By C. L. Burstein, M.D. (Pp. 153. 30s.) New York: Macmillan. 1949.

Microbiology. By F. C. Kelly, M.S., Ph.D. and K. E. Hite, Ph.D., M.D. Introduction by G. M. Dack, Ph.D., M.D. (Pp. 592. \$6 50) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1949.

Resuscitation and Anesthesia for Wounded Men. By H. K. Beecher, A.M., M.D. (Pp. 161. 40s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Springfield, Illinois: Charles Thomas. 1949.

Public Health Bacteriology and Parasitology. By C. G. Booker, M.D., D.P.H., L.R.F.P.S. (Pp. 254. 35s.) Johannesburg: Central News Agency. 1949.

Les Processus Anatomiques de Cicatrisation des Greffes de Corne e. By J. Babel. (Pp. 63. Swiss francs 8.20) New York and Basle: Karger. 1950.

Précis de Parasitologie. By E. Brumpt. Vols. 1 and 2. 6th ed. (Pp. 2,138. 7,700 francs.) Paris: Masson. 1949.

Cardiologie. By D. Routier. (Pp. 365. No price.) Paris: Librairie Maloine. 1949.

Ulcers and Eczema of the Leg Sequels of Phlebitis. By H. Bisgaard. Preface by H. Haxthausen, M.D. (Pp. 105. No price.) Copenhagen: Einar Munksgaard. 1948.

Taschenbuch der Praktischen Medizin. Edited by J. Kottmaier. (Pp. 788. M. 24.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1949.

Die Therapie der Übertragbaren Kinderlähmung. By K. Hofmeier. (Pp. 112. M. 7.50.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1949.

Lebenserinnerungen aus einer Wendzeit der Heilkunde. Wollen und Schaffen. By E. Hoffmann. (Pp. 403. M. 12.) Hanover: Schmorl and Von Seefeld Nache. 1949.

Homöopathische Arzneimittellehre. By A. Stiegele. (Pp. 436. M. 25.) Stuttgart: Marquardt. 1949.

Röntgen- und Radiumphysik für Mediziner. By R. Glocker. (Pp. 275. M. 19.80.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1949.

Lehrbuch der Chirurgie. By R. Stich and K. H. Bauer. (Pp. 860. M. 60.) Berlin: Springer. 1949.

There was the case of "dexedrine." It was first introduced by Menley and James at 126s. per 1,000. The tablets were shortly afterwards marketed by Ward Blenkinsop at 31s. per 1,000. In the last few weeks Boots marketed the same preparation at 8s. 6d. per 1,000. Procaine-penicillin was first sold in this country by I.C.I. (Pharmaceuticals) at 44s. a phial. A few weeks later it was sold by Glaxo Laboratories at 32s. As a result of negotiations between the interested firms and Allen and Hanburys the price was ultimately fixed at 36s., which was 4s. above the price of the most efficient manufacturer. There was plenty of scope for cutting down expenditure, apart from this amendment.

On a division the new Clause "B" was accepted by 138 to 5.

Foreign Visitors

On a further new clause added by the Lords Mr. BLENKINSOP said it carried out a pledge given to the House of Commons during the Report Stage of the Bill. It empowered Mr. Bevan to make and recover charges for use made of the National Health Service by persons not ordinarily resident in Great Britain, but Mr. Bevan did not intend a general and wholesale exclusion of foreign visitors from the benefits of the scheme.

Mr. WALTER ELLIOT was glad to see an admission that there had been substance in the case previously put forward by the Opposition.

Dr. BROUGHTON pointed out that the Clause would allow a Minister of Health to make charges on all foreigners using the National Health Service. He said Mr. Bevan was unlikely to make such a regulation. Care must be exercised not to discourage people from other countries coming for medical and surgical treatment if they were prepared to pay for it.

The House then agreed to the new Clause, and consideration of the National Health Service (Amendment) Bill concluded.

Questions about Prescribing

Mr. BEVAN gave an assurance on December 8 that he did not intend to levy charges for prescriptions supplied in hospitals, including those supplied in casualty wards.

Also on December 8 Mr. KENNETH ROBINSON asked the Minister of Health if he knew that many doctors in the National Health Service were prescribing patent medicines under their trade names in cases where similar ingredients, if specified in the prescription, could be dispensed at less cost.

Mr. BLENKINSOP, for Mr. Bevan, answered that a committee appointed by the Central and Scottish Health Services Councils was considering this problem.

Epileptics.—On October 17, 1949, there were 14,370 epileptics in England and Wales registered as disabled persons.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

The Carey Coombs Memorial Prize for 1949 has been awarded to Dr. I. McD. Stewart for an essay on "The Aetiology of Coronary Thrombosis."

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

At the annual meeting of the College held on December 1 Sir David K. Henderson was elected President for the ensuing year and Drs. W. A. Alexander, J. D. S. Cameron, T. Douglas Inch, Ian G. W. Hill, James G. M. Hamilton, and A. Colin P. Campbell were elected members of Council. Dr. Alexander was nominated Vice-President.

CONJOINT BOARD OF IRELAND

The following candidates were duly admitted licentiates in medicine and midwifery on December 2, having passed the final examination in medicine, surgery, and midwifery of the Conjoint Board of Ireland: E. Bradley, P. G. Brady, H. D. Coghlan, Jane J. Connolly, L. A. Cullen, J. C. Dillon, J. A. Doherty, Rita D. Dooley, Elizabeth M. Farrell, J. A. Fitzpatrick, J. B. Gallagher, Rhoda P. Kennedy, M. J. Moran, J. E. Murphy, J. R. Murphy, J. A. MacCarthy, Eva T. MacDonald, J. F. McGuire, O. A. McKee, Mary T. McQuaid, J. F. Napier, D. O. Ndukwe, Maeve S. O'Kelly, C. M. Ongley, W. Quirk, B. FitzG. Regan, I. Rosenthal, Catherine T. Tynan, Mary T. Vass, A. M. Wells.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

We print below a summary of Infectious Diseases and Vital Statistics in the British Isles during the week ended November 26. [No. 47]

Figures of Principal Notifiable Diseases for the week and those for the corresponding week last year, for: (a) England and Wales (London included). (b) London (administrative county). (c) Scotland. (d) Eire. (e) Northern Ireland. Figures of Births and Deaths, and of Deaths recorded under each infectious disease, are for: (a) The 126 great towns in England and Wales (including London). (b) London (administrative county). (c) The 16 principal towns in Scotland. (d) The 13 principal towns in Eire. (e) The 10 principal towns in Northern Ireland.

A dash — denotes no cases; a blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available.

Disease	1949					1948 (Corresponding Week)				
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Cerebrospinal fever ..	32	4	11	2	2	36	5	16	1	—
Deaths	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	121	18	28	3	9	141	8	37	4	6
Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—
Dysentery	144	25	88	—	—	72	9	46	2	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica, acute	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	27	5	3	—	—	40	12	4
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years	21	1	8	33	4	21	2	5	37	2
Deaths	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—
Measles*	1,469	28	39	200	87	8,547	127	197	53	66
Deaths†	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	31	3	9	1	—	43	5	10	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	11	1	1 (B)	—	—	1	—	4 (B)	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, influenzal ..	710	51	2	2	7	716	63	5	1	2
Deaths (from influenza)‡ ..	35	9	3	—	—	22	2	2	1	—
Pneumonia, primary	303	67	266	27	5	234	29	243	32	15
Deaths	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Polio-encephalitis, acute	17	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, acute	176	23	6	8	1	42	2	2	3	—
Deaths§	21	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia 	87	7	6	—	—	82	10	7	—	1
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	2,827	224	365	154	341	1,544	91	281	165	55
Deaths†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	11	—	1	14	—	3	—	1	4	1
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough*	1,035	43	63	66	67	2,747	162	120	52	16
Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—
Deaths (0-1 year)	288	32	45	23	11	273	29	50	14	13
Deaths (excluding still-births)	5,730	995	683	193	148	4,847	779	631	180	120
Annual death rate (per 1,000 persons living) ..	—	—	13.7	12.0	—	—	—	12.7	11.3	—
Live births	6,938	1,109	867	333	233	7,018	1,139	861	327	231
Annual rate per 1,000 persons living ..	—	—	17.4	20.6	—	—	—	17.4	20.5	—
Stillbirths	142	16	31	—	—	172	12	23	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total births (including stillborn) ..	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	26	—	—

* Measles and whooping-cough are not notifiable in Scotland, and the returns are therefore an approximation only.

† Deaths from measles and scarlet fever for England and Wales, London (administrative county), will no longer be published.

‡ Includes primary form for England and Wales, London (administrative county), and Northern Ireland.

§ The number of deaths from poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis for England and Wales, London (administrative county), are combined.

|| Includes puerperal fever for England and Wales and Eire.

Fulbright Travel Grants

The United States Educational Commission in the United Kingdom announces that, under the provisions of the Fulbright Programme, travel grants are available to citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies to go to America for an academic or educational purpose, such as study, research, lecturing, or for other educational activities. Applicants must possess a guarantee of financial support in dollars in America for the proposed period of their stay. Undergraduate and postgraduate students must show proof of admission to an American institution of higher learning. All applicants must be affiliated with such an institution. Applications may be made by candidates who have not yet concluded these financial and institutional arrangements, and in certain rare cases of exceptional merit the commission will try to help obtain dollar support or institutional connexion for those candidates who have not been able themselves to complete these arrangements. Preference will be given to candidates who intend to stay nine months or more, but applications for shorter periods from well-qualified persons who cannot be spared from their present activities for so long will be accepted. Grants cannot be given for attendance at conferences alone. The travel grants are available for travel to America between June 1, 1950, and May 31, 1951. Those wishing to apply should write immediately to the United States Educational Commission in the United Kingdom, 55, Upper Brook Street, London, W.1, requesting a preliminary application card. After return of this completed card the appropriate further forms will be sent to applicants at a later date.

West of England and Wales Society of Dermatology

The inaugural meeting of the West of England and Wales Society of Dermatology was held at Bristol on Friday, October 28. Dr. Clifford D. Evans took the chair. It was decided to hold three clinical meetings each year. One will be held at Bristol in the fourth week of October, one in Wales in the fourth week of January, and one in Gloucester, Plymouth, or Exeter in the fourth week of April. The meeting will be on a Saturday morning and will take the form of a clinical demonstration and discussion followed by lunch. Dr. Robert P. Warin was elected secretary.

Dr. J. McK. A. Lowson

The Sultan of Johore has conferred the decoration of Insignia of the Order of the Crown of Johore upon Dr. J. McK. A. Lowson, Principal Medical Officer, Johore, in recognition of valuable services rendered by him.

A Sixtieth Birthday

The Scandinavian journal, *Acta Tuberculosea Scandinavica*, has recently published a *Supplement* (1949, No. 21) in celebration of Professor Arvid Wallgren's sixtieth birthday. Professor Wallgren, who was for 20 years senior physician at the Children's Hospital, Göteborg, is now professor of child health at the Caroline Institute in Stockholm. The list of his publications contains the titles of 229 papers and books, many on the subject of tuberculosis. The special supplement of *Acta Tuberculosea Scandinavica* contains a number of interesting papers, mostly on the subject of tuberculosis, by Professor Wallgren's Scandinavian colleagues.

Visitors from the U.S.A.

Dr. Harold S. Diehl, dean of the Minnesota School of Medicine, and Dr. L. W. Chandler, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Stanford University, San Francisco, were guests at a reception held at the Royal Society of Medicine on December 6. They are visiting this country in order to study medical education and its relation to the National Health Service, and they will report their findings to the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association. Dr. Diehl and Dr. Chandler hope to return to this country in three or four years' time in order to find out what effect the National Health Service has had on medical education in the intervening period.

COMING EVENTS**Conference on Cardiovascular Diseases**

A national conference on cardiovascular diseases will be held in Washington from January 18 to 20, 1950, under the joint sponsorship of the American Heart Association and the National Heart Institute of the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. H. M. Marvin and Dr. C. J. Van Slyke, co-chairmen of the conference, have said in a published statement: "This conference we hope will provide the guide-posts for a comprehensive and concrete programme of action to correlate an all-out national attack on the heart disease problem."

Oxford Graduates' Medical Club

The 100th dinner of the Oxford Graduates' Medical Club will be held at the Royal College of Surgeons of England (Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.) on Friday, January 27, 1950, at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m., when the chair will be taken by Dr. C. M. Hinds Howell. Dinner jackets will be worn. Tickets may be obtained from Mr. E. G. Tuckwell, F.R.C.S., 73, Harley Street, London, W.1, price 26s. each. Cheques should be made payable to the Oxford Graduates' Medical Club and should reach Mr. Tuckwell before January 13, 1950.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES**Tuesday**

EDINBURGH POSTGRADUATE BOARD FOR MEDICINE.—At University New Buildings (Anatomy Lecture Theatre), Edinburgh, December 20, 5 p.m., "*Common Diagnostic Problems in Renal Disease*," by Professor Clifford Wilson.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, 5, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—December 20, 5 p.m., "*The Treatment of Varicose Conditions of the Lower Limb*," by Mr. A. K. Monro.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—December 20, 3.45 p.m., "*The Larynx*," Arnott Demonstration by Mr. R. J. Last.

APPOINTMENTS

T. P. Mann, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., has been appointed Assistant to the Professor of Child Health at the Institute of Child Health, University of London, from November 1, 1949.

Dr. Mann will work in the Newborn Baby Department at the Postgraduate Medical School of London, Ducane Road, Hammersmith. He qualified at St. Mary's Hospital in 1941, and after serving as surgeon lieutenant in the R.N.V.R. during the war was medical registrar at the Postgraduate Medical School.

EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—*Consultant Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon in Peterborough Area*, A. A. Finlayson, F.R.C.S. *Consultant Radiologist in King's Lynn Area*, Group Captain G. E. Church, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E., D.M.R.E., R.A.F.

HINDE, R. T., F.R.C.S., Assistant Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon, Exeter Clinical Area, South-Western Regional Hospital Board.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS**BIRTHS**

Burslem.—On November 30, 1949, at the City Hospital, Chester, to Kathleen (née Griffiths), wife of R. W. Burslem, M.D., M.R.C.O.G., a son.
Harris.—On November 11, 1949, at Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa, to Dr. L. B. Mary Harris (née Watch), wife of Norman Francis Harris, a son.
Heanley.—On November 26, 1949, to Molly, wife of Charles Laurence Heanley, F.R.C.S., a third son.
Hughes.—On December 3, 1949, at Klinik Hirslanden, Zurich, Switzerland, to Joy (née Laxton), wife of Dr. D. R. Hughes, a son—Christopher Dennis.
Tarnesby (formerly Tarnowski).—On November 28, 1949, at 6, Downside Crescent, Hampstead, London, N.W., to Eleanor (née Ettlinger), L.M.S.S.A., and Herman P. Tarnesby, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., a daughter—Ruth Marie Bettina Tamara.

DEATHS

Braterman.—On December 3, 1949, at 267, Ealing Road, Wembley, Middlesex, Harry Lewis Braterman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 43.
Gavin.—On December 4, 1949, at his home, William Christopher Gavin, M.B., B.Ch.
Jones.—On December 3, 1949, at Northgate, Russell Road, Rhyl, Flintshire, Edward Hughes Jones, M.D., J.P., aged 84.
Jones.—On December 3, 1949, at 1, Grasmere Avenue, Whitefield, Manchester, John Grant Jones, M.D., late of Birnie, Elgin, Moray, aged 77.
McDonald.—On December 6, 1949, at Belford Villa, Belford, Northumberland, James McDonald, M.D., J.P., aged 82.
MacFaul.—On December 7, 1949, at his residence, Claremont, St. Helens Road, Leigh, Lancs, Alexander MacFaul, M.B., B.Ch.
McKinstry.—On December 7, 1949, William Kilbourn McKinstry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 50.
Munro.—On December 8, 1949, in London, Hector Munro, M.B., C.M., of 9, Queen Anne Street, London, W.1.
Ogg.—On December 5, 1949, at 1, Briardale Gardens, Hampstead, London, N.W., Theodore Alexander William Ogg, M.D.