

## THOREK'S CHASTENER

*Surgical Errors and Safeguards.* By Max Thorek, M.D., LL.D., Sc.D., F.I.C.S., F.B.C.S., F.P.C.S.(Hon.), D.C.M., F.R.S.M. Fifth edition. (Pp. 652+xvi; illustrated. £10.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co., Ltd. 1961.

In previous reviews of the first (1932) and fourth (1945) editions of this well-known book a very favourable opinion of its value was expressed. After a long interval the fifth edition has been published following the much regretted death of its world-famous author last year, and as his son, Philip Thorek, explains in the preface the tremendous advances in surgical practice in the intervening years have made it necessary for the whole book to be completely rewritten and for sections to be undertaken by some 22 collaborating authors. While this was probably inevitable we cannot help feeling that the book has thereby lost many of the very experienced and acceptable opinions of its originator.

One extensive new section of some 65 pages concerns cardiac surgery, and very properly deals only with the safeguards in the handling of such cases. It is copiously illustrated with clear diagrams of the various lesions, electrocardiograms, and radiographs. Incidentally, the diagrams on p. 309 purporting to illustrate a mitral commissurotomy actually show an aortic operation. In view of this emphasis on cardiac surgery it is surprising that there is no reference—except for a brief mention of coronary replacement—to the newer work on vascular surgery which from the point of view of the community is much more important. In the rather short section on thoracic surgery we noted the statement "To R. Nissen (1931) belongs the credit of the first lobectomy," but as long ago as 1900 Glück performed lobectomies upon two septic cases successfully.

On the whole, however, the volume is very informative, well illustrated and produced. As we stated in an earlier review, it can be relied upon to have a chastening effect upon the too ardent novice, which was the author's aim.

The various editions of this work make an interesting commentary upon the increasing costs of book production, for whereas the original 1932 edition of 691 pages cost 45s. the fourth edition of 1,085 pages in 1945 cost 90s., while the present edition of 652 pages works out at 200s.

NORMAN C. LAKE.

Current scientific research and hypotheses are often well presented to the laymen, but a recent book is among the best of its kind. In *Science Survey 2*, edited by A. W. Haslett and John St. John, 23 working scientists discuss a variety of topics in a clear and authoritative way. On the biological side there are chapters on transmission of nerve impulses, the working of muscle cells, psychological and chemical studies of the mind, and the measurement of noise. The chapters on physics include several of interest on the structure and formation of the earth. The volume is published by Vista Books, London (pp. 372, 30s.).

A second edition of the well-known manual *Occupational First Aid* has been issued by the St. John Ambulance Association. It includes a new section on minor dressings. The book should be regarded as a supplement to the ordinary first-aid manuals. The emphasis is mainly on occupational hazards in factories, but it would be found helpful to first-aiders in some other types of occupation. It is obtainable (4s. 6d.) from the St. John Ambulance Association, Stores Department, St. John's Gate, London E.C.1.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

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

*Medicine in Tropical Africa. A Realistic Approach.* By Michael Gelfand, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R. (Pp. 243; illustrated. 30s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961.

*Surgery of Trauma in the Tropics.* By R. L. Batten, B.A. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S. With a chapter on anaesthetics by J. V. Farman, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), F.F.A.R.C.S. (Pp. 234+viii; illustrated. 35s.) London: Edward Arnold. 1961.

*Oral Exfoliative Cytology.* Interim Report of Veterans Administration Co-operative Study. (Pp. 74+vi; illustrated. \$1.50.) Washington: Veterans Administration. 1961.

*Saliva and its Relation to Oral Health. A Survey of the Literature.* Compiled by D. Afonsky, L.D.S., D.D.S., Ph.D. (Pp. 785+xxiv. \$12.) University of Alabama Press. 1961.

*Mining Town Doctor.* By Peter Kennedy. (Pp. 191. 16s.) London: Peter Davies. 1961.

*The Operation.* By Leonard Engel. (Pp. 224. 2s. 6d.) London: Pan Books Ltd. 1961.

*Looking Over My Shoulder.* By C. Willett Cunningham. (Pp. 208; illustrated. 25s.) London: Faber and Faber. 1961.

*The Nurse and her World. A Young Person's Guide.* By Pamela Bright. (Pp. 144. 9s. 6d.) London: Gollancz. 1961.

*The Patient's Attitude to Nursing Care.* By Anne McGhee, A.M.I.A. (Pp. 94+viii. 10s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961.

*Night Calls. A Study in General Practice.* By Max B. Clyne, M.D., with an additional chapter by Aaron Lask, M.A., M.R.C.S., D.P.M. (Pp. 216+xvi. 21s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1961.

*Essays on the First Hundred Years of Anaesthesia.* Vol. II. By W. Stanley Sykes, M.B.E., M.B., B.Chir.(Cantab.), D.A. (Pp. 187+viii; illustrated. 30s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961.

*Nutritive and Therapeutic Value of Fruit and Vegetables.* Food and Agriculture Documentation Series, No. 31. (Pp. 148. 9s.) European Productivity Agency. Organization for European Economic Co-operation. Available from H.M. Stationery Office, P.O. Box 569, London, S.E.1.

*Cells and Cell Structure.* By E. H. Mercer, D.Sc., Ph.D. (Pp. 100; illustrated. 12s. 6d.) London: Hutchinson Educational Ltd. 1961.

*Subtraktion.* By Professor Dr. B. G. Ziedses des Plantes. (Pp. 71; illustrated. DM. 28.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1961.

*Mentally Subnormal Spastics. Addresses given at a Conference held in London, December 1960.* (Pp. 30; illustrated. 4s. 6d.) London: British Council for the Welfare of Spastics. 1961.

*Motiv und Schuld. Eine psychiatrische Studie über den Handlungsablauf bei kriminellen Verhalten.* By Friedrich Stumpf. (Pp. 75. Sch. 73.) Vienna: Verlag Franz Deuticke. 1961.

*Fellowship Examination Papers for the Diplomas of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, 1956-1961.* (Pp. 55. 5s. 6d.) Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961.

*I Tumori Primitivi del Palato.* By Pietro Miani and Lorenzo Marcucci. (Pp. 228; illustrated. No price.) Parma: Edizioni "L'Ateneo Parmense." 1960.

*Actualités Néphrologiques de l'Hôpital Necker, 1961.* Introduction by Professor J. Hamburger. (Pp. 312; illustrated. NF. 58.50.) Paris: Éditions Médicales Flammarion. 1961.

*Measurements in Medicine. Some Epidemiological Contributions to the Etiology and Control of Infection.* By Robert Cruickshank, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Pp. 44. No price.) Edinburgh: Royal College of Physicians. 1961.

*Anaemia and Operations on the Gastrointestinal Tract.* By Sir Stanley Davidson, B.A., M.D., M.D.(Oslo), F.R.C.P.(Edin.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.), F.R.S.Ed. (Pp. 44. No price.) Edinburgh: Royal College of Physicians. 1961.

*Mary and Caroline and the Lay Contribution to Preventive Medicine.* By C. W. Dixon. (Pp. 14. No price.) Dunedin: University of Otago Press. 1961.

## COMING EVENTS

**Royal Northern Hospital.**—Annual scientific exhibition, October 21–28, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., board room of hospital. All doctors and senior medical students welcome.

**Association of Industrial Medical Officers.**—Meeting, October 27, Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London W.C.2; October 28, Westminster Hospital, London S.W.1. Details from Honorary Secretary, A.I.M.O., 47 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London W.C.2.

**William Mackenzie Lecture.**—Professor MEYER-SCHWICKERATH, "The Management of Ocular Tumours," October 27, 5 p.m., hall of Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, 242 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

**Fellowship for Freedom in Medicine.**—Annual general meeting, October 28, 2.15 p.m., Caxton Hall, Westminster, London S.W.1.

**Abortion Law Reform Association.**—Annual general meeting, November 1, 6.45 p.m., Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London W.C.1, followed by public meeting at 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss JOAN VICKERS M.P., "The Status of Women Commission"; R. S. W. POLLARD, Esq., J.P., "Practical Problems of Getting the Law Amended." Questions and discussion. Admission free.

## NEW ISSUES OF SPECIALIST JOURNALS

The Journals listed below are obtainable from the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London W.C.1.

## BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Electrical Potential Across the Isolated Ciliary Body Observed in vitro. D. F. Cole.

Retrolental Decompression for Malignant Glaucoma. A. Stewart Scott and Vernon H. Smith.

Superior Orbital Fissure Syndrome of Uncertain Aetiology. A. Mortada. Juxtaapillary Hamartoma of Retina. B. S. Cardell and M. J. Starbuck. Surgical Cure of Senile Entropion. W. S. Foulds.

Retinal Pathology After Central Retinal Vein Occlusion. J. Reimer Wolter. Effect of Sustained-release Diamox on the Intra-ocular Pressure in Man. S. M. Drance and F. Carr.

Reviews.  
Notes.

Volume 45, No. 10. (Monthly; £6 annually. With *Ophthalmic Literature* and Index £9.)

## BRITISH JOURNAL OF PREVENTIVE AND SOCIAL MEDICINE

Anencephalus in Scotland. R. G. Record.

The Relation Between Smoking Habits and Physique, Respiratory Symptoms, Ventilatory Function, and Radiological Pneumoconiosis Amongst Coal Workers at Three Scottish Collieries. J. R. Ashford, N. Brown, D. P. Duffield, C. S. Smith, and J. W. J. Fay.

Multiple Sclerosis in British Commonwealth Countries in the Southern Hemisphere. E. D. Acheson.

Incidence of Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer in the Royal Navy in 1955. J. H. Baron and R. Vaughan Jones.

Prevalence of the Commoner Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions in the Adult Rural Population of Great Britain. R. Hinchcliffe.

Society for Social Medicine.

Volume 15, No. 3. (Quarterly; £3 annually.)

## 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, October 23

MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—(1) SECTION OF ODONTOLOGY: At Lecture Room, Dental Hospital, 4.30 for 5 p.m., Presidential Address by Professor H. G. Radden: Mouth Wounds. (2) SECTION OF GENERAL PRACTICE: At Large Anatomy Theatre, Medical School, Manchester University, 8.30 for 9 p.m., Mr. A. R. Anscombe: Abdominal Pain.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—4 p.m., Dr. Brian Ackner: Hypochondriasis.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON.—At Physiology Theatre, Gower Street, W.C., 5 p.m., public lecture by Professor J. N. Davidson, F.R.S.: Biosynthesis of Polynucleotides.

## Tuesday, October 24

BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., Dr. L. Brent, Ph.D.: Some Current Problems in Transplantation Immunity.

KEIGHLEY AND DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At General Hospital, Skipton, 8.30 p.m., Dr. G. Watkinson: Peptic Ulcer.

MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Large Anatomy Theatre, Medical School, Manchester University, 4 for 4.30 p.m., University Lecture on the History of Medicine, by Mr. W. W. Nicholson: Napoleon and his Doctors.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Dr. A. G. W. Whitfield: Pulmonary Fibrosis.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Erasmus Wilson Demonstration by Dr. A. J. M. Reese: Tumours of the Kidney.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5 p.m., Sir Andrew Claye: Disturbances of Sexual Function.

WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. E. H. Larkin: Drug Treatment in Psychiatry.

WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL.—At County Hall, Kendal, 4 p.m., Dr. R. H. Seville: Dermatology for Nurses.

## Wednesday, October 25

BONE AND TOOTH SOCIETY.—At Institute of Orthopaedics, 4 for 4.30 p.m., symposium: Fluorides. Papers by Dr. G. N. Jenkins, Dr. S. M. Weidmann, Dr. A. M. Bond, and Dr. W. T. C. Berry.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY: INSTITUTE OF VIROLOGY.—At Lecture Theatre, Department of Pathology, Western Infirmary, Glasgow, 4.30 p.m., Pfizer Lecture in Virology, 1961, by Dr. G. K. Hirst (New York): Animal Virology as a Biological Science.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Professor C. D. Calnan: Physiology of Itching.

INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Dr. R. V. Gibson: Constrictive Pericarditis and Cardiac Tamponade.

● INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 3 p.m., discussion: Prematurity. Guest speakers: Professor G. Gordon Lennan and Mr. G. H. Bancroft-Livingston.

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—4.30 for 5 p.m., Dr. H. J. G. Bloom: Radiotherapy.

MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF MEDICINE.—At Large Anatomy Theatre, Medical School, Manchester University, 4 for 4.30 p.m., Dr. J. N. Walton: Current Concepts of Muscle Disease.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—2 p.m., Dr. M. D. Milne: Renal Function Tests.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Arnott Demonstration by Dr. D. H. Tompsett: Casts of the Bronchial Tree (with practical demonstration).

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—5.15 p.m., Professor J. V. Dacie: Some Aspects of Haemolytic Anaemias.

## Thursday, October 26

BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL INSTITUTE: SECTION OF ANAESTHETICS.—8.15 p.m., Dr. H. Rex Marrett: New Technique and a New Machine for Out-patient and Dental Anaesthesia (illustrated by sound film).

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY: DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY.—At Small Theatre, Queen's Building, University Walk, 8.30 p.m., Professor Martin Roth: Borderland Between Functional and Organic Mental Illness—a Growing Point in Psychiatric Research.

BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., Dr. Henry Harris: Transfer of Information from Nucleus to Cytoplasm.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY: INSTITUTE OF VIROLOGY.—At Lecture Theatre, Department of Pathology, Western Infirmary, Glasgow, 4.30 p.m., Pfizer Lecture in Virology, 1961, by Dr. G. K. Hirst (New York): Virus Neutralization—an Immunological Phenomenon.

HILL END HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—8.30 p.m., speaker, Dr. Richard Asher.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Professor A. W. Grace (New York): Microscopic Pattern of Disintegration of Nuclei in Pemphigus, Contact Dermatitis, and Disseminated Lupus Erythematosus.

LEWISHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.—5.45 p.m., clinico-pathological conference.

LEWISPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—8 p.m., Dr. R. C. Nairn: Immunofluorescence in Medicine.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Thomas Vicary Lecture by Sir Clement Price Thomas: Vicary Amongst His Contemporaries.

ROYAL SOCIETY.—10.30 a.m., symposium on Biochemistry and Nutrition to celebrate the centenary of the birth of a former President of the Society, Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, O.M. Under the leadership of Professor R. A. Morton, F.R.S.

ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.—At Physiology Department Lecture Theatre, Queen's College, Dundee, 5 p.m., Dr. H. Lehmann: Modern Developments in the Recognition of Abnormal Haemoglobins.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. M. Partridge: postgraduate demonstration in psychiatry.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON.—At Anatomy Theatre, Gower Street, W.C., 1.15 p.m., lunch-hour lecture by Dr. A. S. G. Curtis: Capabilities of a Living Cell.

Friday, October 27

INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Dr. J. Smart: clinical demonstration.

PLYMOUTH MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Freedom Fields Hospital, 8.30 p.m., clinical evening.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—(1) 10 a.m., Mr. V. H. Riddell: Unsettled Thyroid Problems; (2) 4 p.m., Professor L. S. Penrose: Mongolism.

Saturday, October 28

ASSOCIATION OF ANAESTHETISTS OF EDINBURGH.—At Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, 5.15 p.m., combined meeting with Glasgow and West of Scotland Society. Mr. E. Brewin: Acid Base Balance.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF SPORT AND MEDICINE.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 10 a.m., joint lecture meeting with Ergonomics Research Society.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Chest Clinic, Castle Hill, Cambridge, symposium on Respiratory Diseases. Morning: 10.30 a.m., Dr. R. A. Bruce: Pulmonary Manifestations of Sarcoidosis; 11.30 a.m., Dr. M. J. Greenberg: Place of B.C.G. Vaccination; 12.15 p.m., Dr. E. M. Cheffins: Pulmonary Complications of General Disease.

Afternoon: 2.30 p.m., Mr. C. Parish: Clinical Presentation of Carcinoma of the Bronchus; 3.15 p.m., Dr. P. K. M. Barrett: Drug Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis; 4 p.m., Any Questions?

Sunday, October 29

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—10.15 a.m., seminar. Mr. S. E. Birdsall: Common Ear, Nose, and Throat Conditions.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

## BIRTHS

Llewelyn.—On September 14, 1961, to Dr. Joan (formerly Macdonald), wife of David A. B. Llewelyn, of Little Oaks, Park View Road, Woldingham, Surrey, a son.

## DEATHS

Low.—On September 26, 1961, at 16 Jubilee Grove, Lymm, Cheshire, Monica Low, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S., late of Blackpool, Lancs, aged 57.

Macrae.—On September 19, 1961, at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Archibald Campbell Macrae, M.B., Ch.B., Colonel, I.M.S., retired, of Mount Charles, Moffat, Dumfriesshire.

McGowan.—On September 22, 1961, at Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen, John Pool McGowan, M.D., M.R.C.P.Ed., D.T.M.&H., of 16 Ruthrie-hill Road, Stoneywood, Aberdeen.