

reward must be added the gratitude of the many who have read past editions or who will read the present one.

J. E. A. O'CONNELL.

## Compendium on Poisoning

**Poisoning. Diagnosis and Treatment.** 1st American edition. By Sven Moeschlin, M.D. (Pp. 707+xviii; illustrated. \$29.75.) New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1965.

It is probably a truism that clinical toxicology, unlike Gaul but certainly like the rest of clinical medicine, is divided into two parts—diagnosis and treatment. The latter, with occasional exceptions, resolves itself into the application of the general principles for dealing with medical emergencies. Proper diagnosis, on the other hand, is a much wider exercise. According to present-day, materialistic concepts the world around us

and within us is composed of a host of chemicals, and a glance any day at *Chemical Abstracts* affords ample testimony to the effect that people in laboratories are busy synthesizing even more. The problem then presents itself to the clinician—which of these are harmful to man, and how and by what means do they bring about their effects?

Nobody knows all the answers. What is more, the subject in itself is liable to division according to whether the compounds concerned present themselves as drugs, when therapeutics are involved; or make their impact in industry, when they come within the realm of occupational medicine; or appear in the environment, when they are a feature of public health—and so on. Thus what the everyday physician needs in order to become even partially knowledgeable about the diverse questions that may beset him from time to time is a compendious yet convenient book of reference. Professor Moeschlin has gone a long way in this work to providing the answer. He has covered an enormous territory, much of it from first-hand knowledge, and when he has turned to others he

has readily quoted the sources. Any clinician likely to be confronted with toxicological problems may well find this text of considerable assistance and support.

If there is any criticism to be made it is more of form than of content. To begin with, the translation of a medical text always presents difficulties, and in this instance a nagging awkwardness in the change from the original German to the English of the present edition unfortunately obtrudes. Next, a certain amount of condensation and systematic rearrangement might help to render the contents into a more succinct form. Finally, we would warn Professor Moeschlin, as he well knows, that his task is by no means complete. The index which he has compiled for us in permanent form as a book is in constant need of expansion. Successive editions will be needed every three or four years. Personally, I have a weakness for well-made and well-bound books like this one, but are they really justified when revisions (and thus repurchases) at such short intervals are going to be the rule?

ROY GOULDING.

## Books Received

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

**Domestic Accidents.** By E. Maurice Backett. (Pp. 137. 10s.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1965.

**The Imitation of Gestures.** A Technique for Studying the Body Schema and Praxis of Children Three to Six Years of Age. By Jean Bergès and Irène Lézine. (Pp. 116; illustrated. 21s.) London: Heinemann. Spastics Society. 1965.

**Light: Physical and Biological Action.** By Howard H. Seliger and William D. McElroy. (Pp. 417+xi; illustrated. £4 16s.) New York: Academic Press. 1965.

**Metabolism of Steroid Hormones.** By Ralph I. Dorfman and Frank Ungar. (Pp. 716+viii; illustrated. £12 16s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1965.

**The Lung Circulation.** By Domingo M. Aviado. Vol. 1. Physiology and Pharmacology. (Pp. 589+xxiv; illustrated.) Vol. 2. Pathologic Physiology and Therapy of Diseases. (Pp. 593-1405+xix; illustrated. Set of 2 books £15.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

**Hallux Valgus, Allied Deformities of the Forefoot, and Metatarsalgia.** By H. Kelikian, M.D. (Pp. 503+vi; illustrated. £6 16s. 6d.) London: W. B. Saunders. 1965.

**Venereal Disease.** A Simple Explanation. By Philip S. Silver, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Pp. 15; illustrated. 2s.) London: W. H. Smith. 1965.

**Dictionary of Hypnosis.** By Ralph B. Winn, Ph.D. (Pp. 124. 30s.) London: Vision. 1965.

**Spencer Wells.** The Life and Work of a Victorian Surgeon. By John A. Shepherd. (Pp. 132+xi; illustrated. 30s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

**Nervous Tension, Behaviour and Body Function.** By Helen B. Barton, M.D. (Pp. 336. 42s.) London: Vision. 1965.

**Diagnosis and Genetics of Defective Colour Vision.** By H. Kalmus, Sc.D., M.D. (Pp. 114+x; illustrated. 50s.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

**Accident Prevention and Life Saving.** Convention, London, 1963. Edited by John N. Hunt, M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 320+xii; illustrated. 35s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

**Eye Health.** By Colin B. Fryer, F.B.O.A. (Pp. 112+xii; illustrated. 12s. 6d.) London: Duckworth. 1965.

**Personality and Personal Illness.** By G. A. Foulds, in collaboration with T. M. Caine. (Pp. 344+xi. 55s.) London: Tavistock. 1965.

**Nierenclearance.** Technik, Bewertung, Ergebnisse in Klinik und Experiment. By Dr. Peter Balint. (Pp. 122+viii. DM. 16.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1965.

**Die Viszerale Mykosen.** Pathologie, Klinik und Therapie. By Günter Bader. (Pp. 423. DM. 64.70.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1965.

**General Pathology.** 2nd edition. By J. B. Walter, T.D., M.D., M.R.C.P., M.C.Path., and M. S. Israel, M.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.P., M.C.Path. (Pp. 1046+x; illustrated. £6.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Cytology.** By Professor C. D. Darlington, F.R.S. (Pp. 768+xvi; illustrated. 60s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Essentials of Orthopaedics.** 4th edition. By Philip Wiles, M.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.A.C.S., and Rodney Sweetnam, M.A.(Cantab.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.). (Pp. 584+xiv; illustrated. 90s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Textbook of Pulmonary Diseases.** Edited by Gerald L. Baum, M.D. (Pp. 737+xxiv; illustrated. £9 15s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Radiation Dosimetry.** Proceedings of International School of Physics, Varenna, Italy. Course 30. Edited by F. W. Spiers and G. W. Reed. (Pp. 308; illustrated. £5 12s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1965.

**Controversial Aspects of the Management of Retinal Detachment.** Edited by Charles L. Schepens, M.D. (Pp. 374+xxi; illustrated. £5 15s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Radioisotopes and Circulation.** Edited by Gunnar Sevelius, M.D. (Pp. 307+xxii; illustrated. £4 12s. 6d.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Complications after Cataract Surgery.** Edited by Frederick H. Theodore, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 672+xv; illustrated. £5 15s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Gynaecology.** Essentials of Clinical Practice. By Thomas H. Green, Jun., M.D. (Pp. 478+x; illustrated. 50s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**Fluorescence Assay in Biology and Medicine.** 3rd printing. By Sidney Udenfriend. (Pp. 517+xii. £5.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1964.

**Children with Communication Problems.** Proceedings of Conference, London, 1964. Edited by Alfred White Franklin. (Pp. 125+viii. 25s.) London: Pitman. 1965.

**The Year Book of Endocrinology.** 1964-1965 series. Edited by Theodore B. Schwartz, M.D. (Pp. 416; illustrated. 64s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1965.

**Drug-Induced Diseases.** Symposium, Leyden, 1964. Edited by L. Meyler and H. M. Peck. (Pp. 163+vii; illustrated. £4 10s.) Amsterdam, New York, London, Milan, Tokyo, and Buenos Aires: Excerpta Medica Foundation. 1965.

**The Conquest of Tuberculosis.** By Selman A. Waksman. (Pp. 241+xiv; illustrated. 30s.) London: Robert Hale. 1965.

**The Roentgen Diagnosis of Trauma.** By Herbert R. Zatzkin, M.D., F.A.C.R. (Pp. 448; illustrated. £8 5s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1965.

**Interviewing.** Its Forms and Functions. By Stephen A. Richardson, Barbara Snell Dohrenwend and David Klein. (Pp. 380+viii. 40s.) New York and London: Basic. 1965.