

medical approach to its treatment of the various aspects of the subject. In spite of this the contributors have avoided the oversimplification which is the trap ever open to those presenting scientific fundamentals to clinical people. Where an understanding of the subject demands it mathematical arguments are freely used, and the reader needs to be familiar with the simpler conventions of the differential and the integral calculus and to a small extent with probability theory if he is to make full use of the matter here so clearly presented. Indeed, the principles of nuclear medicine can hardly be discussed at all without recourse to mathematical formalism.

There is added interest in the attention paid to historical perspective, but the book is in general commendably up to date. It is a joy to see the electron probability cloud model of the atom at last displacing the model which depicts electrons circling the nucleus in discrete orbits. In spite of this modern approach the contributors have not lost sight of the possibility that many of their readers may find the subject unfamiliar, and they have provided numerous admirably clear diagrams to illustrate abstruse concepts. This clarity is maintained as specific topics are introduced. The section dealing with the physical principles of scanning leans heavily upon a succession of clear diagrams when explaining the various forms of imaging device. The same remarks may be made about the following section on whole-body counting, where the alternative systems available for this purpose are clearly surveyed.

In such a comprehensive text it is easy to find that this or that example has been omitted or the work of this or that investigator has been ignored. It would be tiresome to enumerate instances, but the reader interested in radioisotope renography will at once observe that this topic is left largely as it was five or six years ago; the treatment is here quite out of date. He who would dip into the book for selected topics should be warned that what he seeks may not be all in the expected place. For example, the section dealing with vitamin-B<sub>12</sub> absorption does not mention the assay of B<sub>12</sub> blood levels by saturation analysis, although this is referred to elsewhere; the section where activation analysis is explained makes no men-

tion of whole-body activation analysis, but reference to this is to be found among the examples of the uses to which whole-body counters are put.

Every chapter has appended a long and useful list of references. Many tables of important data are collected in an appendix, and recipes for the carrying out of common nuclear medicine procedures are gathered in a final chapter. The index is sufficient. This is the book for any medical man assuming responsibility for clinical isotope work. The man new to the field will refer to it daily; the experienced man as often as he wants a reminder of a less familiar procedure or a résumé before referring to original papers; and the postgraduate teacher will find it immensely useful in preparing lectures.

E. S. WILLIAMS.

## Atlas of Radiology

**Roentgenologic Diagnosis.** A Complement in Radiology to the Beeson and McDermott Textbook of Medicine. By J. George Teplick, M.D., Marvin E. Haskin, M.D., F.A.C.P., and Arnd P. Schimert, M.D. (Vol. 1: pp. 514+xxvi+index. Vol. 2: pp. 515-1198+xxvi+index; illustrated. Set of two vols. £13 5s. 6d.) London: W. B. Saunders. 1967.

In this book the authors provide us with a radiological atlas to supplement the Beeson and McDermott *Textbook of Medicine*. There are over 2,000 illustrations of excellent quality, very well chosen, depicting the salient radiological findings in the various medical conditions discussed in the medical text.

The arrangement of the atlas follows very closely the layout of the *Textbook of Medicine*. The radiological findings are classified under individual diseases and do not follow a standard anatomical arrangement. This unusual way of presenting the material may make it difficult for the student of radiology to follow the atlas without reading the textbook at the same time. The individual illustrations are very well annotated, but detailed information in the text has been limited, probably intentionally, making the point that this atlas must be considered as a complement to the Beeson and McDermott book.

Great credit goes to the authors and publishers for the care with which the illustrations have been chosen. What the authors have set out to do they have achieved admirably. This is a most valuable addition to clinical radiology, and should be obtained by everyone interested in this field.

R. E. STEINER.

## History of Midwifery

**Milestones in Midwifery.** By Walter Radcliffe, M.A.(Camb.), M.B., B.Chir.(Camb.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.). (Pp. 110+x; illustrated. 25s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1967.

Compared with the attention paid to medicine and surgery the history of midwifery has been relatively neglected, for with the exception of Cutter and Viet's *Short History of Midwifery* (1964) there has been no recent up-to-date volume on the subject. *Milestones in Midwifery* should therefore be welcomed, for it contains an interesting story written in a pleasing style and full of valuable information. The author has gone back to original sources, and has inserted many extracts from them at the end of each chapter. As Dr. David Brown states in his foreword: "The detailed description of the methods... are not only a pleasure to read but are also of enormous postgraduate importance."

Many interesting but out-of-the-way facts will be found in these pages—for example, we are told that on page 71 by whom and when the sounds of the foetal heart were first heard in a pregnant woman, and also the name of the man who first recognized the significance of these sounds. In a short epilogue the author reviews the great advances that have taken place during this century—life-saving advances that can only be fully realized by those who filled obstetric posts more than 60 years ago (as I did).

Everyone who intends to practise midwifery would be well advised to read and re-read this little book, in which it is shown how the truth about childbirth was discovered by the painful process of trial and error, by close observation and long experience.

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## Books Received

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

**Fibrinogen.** Edited by Koloman Laki. (Pp. 398+xiii; illustrated. £8 15s.) London: Edward Arnold Ltd. 1968.

**Immunochemistry and the Biosynthesis of Antibodies.** By Felix Haurowitz, M.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 301+xvii; illustrated. £5 3s.) New York, London, Sydney: Interscience Publishers. 1968.

**Biophysical Aspects of Radiation Quality. Second Panel Report.** Papers by G. Legeay and others. (Pp. 180; illustrated. U.S. \$3.00. Austrian Schillings 78. £1 5s. F.Fr. 14.70. DM. 12.) Vienna: International Atomic Energy Agency. 1968.

**Advances in Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics.** Vol. 1. Edited by Sumner N. Levine. (Pp. 407+vii; illustrated. £7 10s.) New York, London, Sydney: Interscience Publishers. 1968.

**Clinical Psychopharmacology.** By Michael Shepherd, M.A., D.M., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Malcolm Lader, B.Sc., Ph.D., M.D., D.P.M., and Richard Rodnight, B.Sc., Ph.D. Foreword by H. O. Schild, F.R.S., M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc. (Pp. 306+xiv; illustrated. £2 10s.) London: The English Universities Press Ltd. 1968.

**The Eye. Phenomenology and Psychology of Function and Disorder.** By J. M. Heaton, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.O. (Pp. 336+xii; illustrated. £3 10s.) London: Tavistock Publications. J. B. Lippincott Company. 1968.

**The Cardia and Hiatus Hernia.** By H. Daintree Johnson, M.D., M.Chir.(Cantab.), F.R.C.S. (Pp. 103+xii; illustrated. £1 10s.) London: William Heinemann Medical Books Limited. 1968.

**Atlas of Gynaecologic and Obstetric Diagnostic Histopathology.** By N. A. Janovski, M.D., F.C.A.P., and Viktor Dubrausky, M.D. (Pp. 610+xiii; illustrated. £13 16s.) Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill Book Company.

**Blood Coagulation Simplified.** Edited by F. Nour-Eldin, Ph.D., M.B., B.Ch., L.M.S.S.A., M.C.Path. (Pp. 160+vii; illustrated. 25s.) London: Butterworth.

**Rheumatic Diseases.** Pfizer Medical Monograph —3. Edited by J. J. R. Duthie and W. R. M. Alexander. (Pp. 296; illustrated. 63s.) Edinburgh University Press. 1968.

**Surgery of the Aged and Debilitated Patient.** Edited by John H. Powers, M.D. (Pp. 611; illustrated. £8 1s. 6d.) London: W. B. Saunders Co. Ltd. 1968.

**Slit-Lamp Gonioscopy.** Edited by Georg Gorin, M.D., and Adolph Posner, M.D. Third edition. (Pp. 254+xvii; illustrated. 97s. 6d.) Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1968.

**Eugene Wolff's Anatomy of the Eye and Orbit.** Sixth edition. Edited by R. J. Last, M.B., B.S.(Adel.), F.R.C.S. (Pp. 529+viii; illustrated. £5 5s. net.) London: H. K. Lewis & Co. 1968.