mentioned time intervals with appropriate change in total dosage. He does not stress the ultimate cosmetic benefit of protection in skin lesions.

He stresses the importance of the *tumor dose* instead of the total air r, or r on skin so often found in the radiological literature.

Although all of Paterson's methods are not universally accepted as ideal, he does present a thorough and clear summary of treatment as found to be most efficacious for his organization. The radium studies are particularly useful and seem better presented than the x-ray. The chapters on the uterus and breast seem less adequate than those on the skin and oral structures.

This book is well worth including in the library of every radiologist.

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DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT. By William Wallace Morrison, M.D., Professor of Otolaryngology and Attending Otolaryngologist, New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., New York, 1948. $8.50.

While this book is written largely for the use of the undergraduate student and the general practitioner, it is worth a place on the shelf of the otolaryngologist. The simplicity and clearness of the descriptions show the result of the author's long teaching experience. The absence of color plates would seem to detract from the value of the book but the author's drawings illustrate to an unusual degree the subject matter so that color plates seem unnecessary.

The short chapter on history-taking is of especial value to the student.

The descriptions of operative technique and bronchoscopy are not very complete, but are adequate for the purpose for which the book is intended.

Among the new features which are of considerable value are the chapters on local anesthesia, vasoconstrictor drugs, antibiotics, audiometry, aero-otitis, endaural surgery, the use of radium in the nasopharynx, Meniere's syndrome, allergy, headaches and laryngotracheobronchitis. Many more new features with a complete description of all recognized procedures in the practice of otolaryngology make the book very much worth while.

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VENOUS THROMBOSIS AND PULMONARY EMBOLISM. By Harold Neuhof, M.D., Clinical Professor of Surgery in Columbia University; Consulting Surgeon to Mount Sinai Hospital, Montefiore, Beth El, and Hackensack, N. J., Hospitals. Mt. Sinai Monograph No. 2. Grune and Stratton, New York, 1948. $4.50.

This monograph is based on the author's wide experience with venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. It is divided into two parts. The first deals with various forms of venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism, with illustrative case reports. Emphasis is placed on thrombectomy with vein ligation in the surgical treatment of this condition.

Although anticoagulant therapy is mentioned, it is not adequately described or discussed.

The second part of the book is devoted to an analysis of 88 proven cases of fatal pulmonary embolism which occurred in the period between January 1, 1928, and April 1, 1938. There are excellent clinical descriptions with a correlation of the postmortem findings. The author emphasizes the fact that "there is no constant relationship between the degree, location and extent of the pulmonary embolism and the clinical syndrome produced."

The chief value of this book lies in the clear description of the clinical cases of pulmonary embolism. It is recommended for those physicians who are particularly interested in the finer points in diagnosis and pathology of this condition.

HUMAN NUTRITION. By V. H. Mottram, M.A. (Cant.), formerly Professor of Physiology King's College of Household and Social Science, University of London. Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1948.

Although Mottram's fascinating and interesting volume is small, it is one of the most important contributions on human nutrition available to English-speaking peoples. The book, a primer of nutrition, emphasizes the biochemical and metabolic values of food in maintaining the human economy in optimum condition. Man is what he eats, and Mottram indicates why.

There are interesting chapters on the fundamentals of dietetics where the functions of food are stressed and a plea made for a mixed diet—one which will ensure the necessary elements for growth, maintenance, and repair. The chapter on digestion and metabolism presents the physiology of these important processes with simplicity and clarity. There is an excellent discussion of the *biologic value* of proteins, and the part they play in nutrition. The chapter on the importance of mineral elements is extremely practical. In another chapter the *optimal diet* is discussed in great detail from both the experimental and theoretical viewpoints. There is an informative chapter on cooking and processing of foods and how these factors influence nutritive value. Another chapter devoted to an exploration of the lore of meal habits shows the relationship between the time of taking meals and maximum muscular efficiency.

The last chapter of the book, dealing with the nature of foods, is a classic and should be read by everyone. It is a valuable book for the physician, and it is delightful reading.

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PRINCIPLES GOVERNING EYE OPERATING ROOM PROCEDURES. By Emma I. Clevenger, R.N., Supervisor Eye Operating Room, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, New York City. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1948. $5.50.

This book is well done and covers the field thoroughly. It follows the pattern of the methods used at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

The book gives all procedures before, during and after operations on the eye. Part III, enumerating eye operations and the instruments used, is very instructive.

This book should be a must for any hospital having a department of ophthalmology. Both nurses and doctors can greatly benefit by reading it.

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TUBERCULOSIS, A Discussion of Phthisiogenesis, Immunology, Pathological Physiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment. By Francis Marion Pottenger, A.M., M.D., Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University of Southern California, The School of Medicine. Illustrated. The C. V. Mosby Company, 1948.

Dr. Pottenger, an elder statesman among chest physicians in California, presents in this book his views concerning many aspects of tuberculosis. Adequate references are made to the literature for general orientation, but the emphasis is on Dr. Pottenger's own views and contributions.

The chapters on pthisiogenesis are confusing, containing vague references to toxins, enzymes, cellular excitation, general body excitation, etc. The known facts concerning the immune response to tuberculosis are not clearly presented, and the important contributions of Rich, Raffel, and others are virtually ignored.

The most unusual feature of the book is its emphasis on visceral neurology in relation to tuberculosis. Dr. Pottenger has made important contributions to this subject, and his detailed presentation of signs and symptoms caused by involvement of the vegetative nervous system is worth reading. To most physicians, the interpretation placed upon minor alterations in palpation and percussion will seem

somewhat esoteric. To quote one example: "Palpation and percussion showed enlarged hilum structures on both sides, with slight infiltration in both apices, more marked on the right. The right side showed considerable lagging and the apical muscles on both sides were slightly degenerated, and also in spasm. The apical process, however, did not seem to be sufficiently active to account for the symptoms."

Treatment is dealt with in a conventional manner, although Dr. Pottenger's enthusiasm for tuberculin therapy will not be shared by all.

For the student interested in a clear, objective orientation in the field of tuberculosis, this book cannot be recommended; the recent works of Rich and of Pinner are much more suitable. However, for the specialist who is acquainted with the literature and able to form his own judgments, Dr. Pottenger's viewpoint will prove stimulating.

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HUTCHISON'S FOOD AND THE PRINCIPLES OF DIETETICS. Revised by V. H. Mottram, M.A. (Cant.). Sometime Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Late Professor of Physiology at King's College of Household and Social Science, University of London, and George Graham, M.D. (Cant.), consulting physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Tenth edition. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1948. $6.75.

This is an encyclopedic volume dealing with the biochemical and nutritive value of foods and the physiology of digestion and metabolism. The first five chapters of Section I deal with the subject of diet in normal life, and cover the fundamental divisions of the field of nutrition, namely those dealing with energy; body building materials; the minerals, with emphasis placed on the importance of the significant ones. There is an excellent chapter on the historical and evolutionary background of the vitamins.

The next four chapters are devoted to the practical aspects of nutrition, emphasizing the optimal diet and its availability and the processing, storage, cooking, and protection of foods. The section closes with two chapters devoted to the physiology of normal nutrition, where the topics of digestion, absorption, and metabolism in health are given in considerable detail. A short chapter on the subject of food habits closes the section.

Section II deals with the nature of foods. The chapter on foods used for energy is very good and contains an excellent discussion of the cereals and a detailed analysis of breads and the potato. Two chapters in this section are devoted to the proteins, which are presented from the point of view of their biologic value, eggs heading the list, followed by milk and milk products. Another chapter deals with the foods prominent because of their mineral and vitamin contents. A short chapter deals with the subject of flavors and condiments, and the last chapter with beverages—water, tea, coffee and alcohol. The latter is a dispassionate presentation of information on the subject which is aimed at dispelling the uncritical preconceptions of the clinician.

Section III is devoted to the clinical principles of feeding in infancy and childhood. The subjects of substitutions for human milk, and proprietary foods are covered in detail. Section IV deals exclusively with the clinical problems involved in the use of diet in disease. The discussions of diet in the treatment of fevers, obesity, and constipation are very good. The sections dealing with diabetes, arthritis, renal calculus and anemia could be improved. The topics of anorexia nervosa, gout, osteomalacia, peptic ulcer, gastrointestinal disturbances, sprue, cirrhosis, cardiac failure, epilepsy, and the nephritides are covered with reasonable adequacy. And the final chapter gives a critical analysis and evaluation of the problem of artificial feeding.

This book is highly informative and well written. The sections which deal with the fundamental subjects of chemistry, physiology and metabolism are among the best in the field, and they far overshadow the clinical sections. The bibliography is very well chosen, pertinent and good. The table of contents is unusually full and descriptive of the text and combined with the index makes the book extremely easy to use.

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WAR, POLITICS, AND INSANITY. By C. S. Bluemel, M.D., The World Press, Inc., Denver, Colorado, 1948. $2.00.

The first chapters of this small book deal with an explanation of some psychological terms applied to personality, and a consideration of these personality traits as they appear in great personages of history, in particular the conquerors and dictators. The author's thesis is that rather than our choosing our leaders for desirable characteristics, they force themselves on us because of their aggressive and compulsive natures. The last chapters deal with a possible solution to this problem in a democracy. The whole work seems quite superficial, and seems to bear out very well the statement of Dr. Walter Schaller, that psychiatrists are spreading themselves so thin that even their patients are beginning to see through them.

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ATLAS OF PLASTIC SURGERY. By Morton I. Berson, M.D., formerly director of the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the Downtown Hospital and Pan-American Clinic, New York City. Grune and Stratton, 1948. $15.00.

This is a book of 304 pages including the index. It begins with a diagrammatic representation of some of the procedures of plastic surgery and continues with short explanations of these various procedures as applied to the different parts of the body.

The text is very limited, as might be expected in an atlas, and often omits important factors in operation. The book is not well balanced in its attempt to cover the field of plastic surgery. For instance, six pages are devoted to reconstruction surgery of the hand and only four cases are illustrated. One of these is at fault in that a diagram of an already placed abdominal flap on the dorsum of the hand is shown in a drawing as completely dissected from the hand except at the line of the scar at the wrist. Such dissection would result in complete loss of this flap because blood supply would not be possible. In addition, the photograph of the final result in this case is taken at an angle instead of a full anteroposterior view so that the true result is not shown in the region of the webs of the fingers which, of course, it is supposed to illustrate. There are no illustrations or discussions of tendon surgery or nerve surgery of the hand. In comparison, there are 66 pages devoted to reconstruction surgery of the nose, the great majority of which illustrate so-called cosmetic surgery.

In a few illustrations of actual cases by the author there is a lack of final pictures. In reconstruction of the ear by the reviewer's method, as so captioned in the book, the author has missed some of the important steps in the operation and the reviewer does not like to be held responsible for the final result as shown in the photograph.

Of the two photographs of finished reconstruction of harelips showing repair of the original deformity, that of the repair of the bilateral cleft lip is utterly worthless as a photograph because it is badly out of focus or something has happened to the film so that the result cannot be seen.

For the untrained in plastic surgery too much is omitted and the problems are made to appear so simple that one would think he need only follow the diagrams of the Atlas to obtain easy results. The book will add nothing to the armamentarium of the trained plastic surgeon.