
The need for physiotherapy in the modern practice of medicine does not require to be elaborated. There is therefore undoubtedly a call for manuals which will present the subject clearly and in such a manner as to be readily grasped by the general practitioner. Dr. Clayton has succeeded in producing a work which will serve as a guide to the practitioner and a useful book of reference to the trained manipulater. It describes treatments with massage exercises, radiant heat and electricity, based on the principles used at King’s College Hospital in London; and these, it is claimed, can be easily followed by the experienced manipulater.

There is an introductory chapter to help the practitioner who is unacquainted with these forms of treatment; useful explanations are given of massage and medical exercises and of the various ways in which the faradie and galvanic currents may be used.

The book can be readily recommended for its arrangement and highly practical nature.

H. E. MACDERMOT


There are books which are necessarily expensive to publish because they do not appeal to a large reading public, but the world would be much the poorer if they never appear. This volume forms the third of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum Research Studies in Medical History, and through the generosity of Mr. Henry S. Wellcome it sees the light. It is a beautiful book.

In December, 1914, the four-centenary of the birth of Vesalius was to have been celebrated in Brussels. Alas, the war intervened, with the result that the projected Liber Memorialis with Mr. Spielmann’s chapter on the iconography of Vesalius was not printed. Indeed shortly after the commencement of the war the library of Vesalius’s own University - Louvain—was destroyed by an act of war, and with it his portrait in oil and the semi-unique vellum copy of his De Humani Corporis Fabrica.

Mr. Spielmann is a leading authority on portraits, and is well-known in connection with those of Shakespeare. It would seem that he has said the last word on the pictures and artistic memorials of Vesalius. It is his considered opinion that there is only one portrait which is unquestionably a life-portrait of Vesalius and that is the brilliant wood-cut drawn by Jan Stephan van Calcar which appeared first in the Fabrica of 1543. A very full account of this is given, followed by descriptions of all the known portraits which are to be found in various parts of the world.

ARCHIBALD MALLOCH


This book brings together the advances made in the special field of pulmonary disease; its material is drawn both from a review of the literature, and from the author’s experience in the Massachusetts General Hospital. It is the second edition, and the growth of our knowledge in these diseases has called for many changes, and the addition of much new matter, including a chapter on tuberculosis. To make a subject into a specialty is too often the signal for treating it in a manner which does not add to its attraction for the general reader. In this case, however, the general practitioner will find the material well arranged, and well balanced, with references given in the more accessible form of footnotes. It is not a text-book for the student in the most complete sense of the word, but will be valuable to him in extending his reading. The various theories and views which are held with regard to such debatable questions as, for example, the mechanism of massive collapse of the lung, are well stated, and with an absence of dogmatism which is characteristic of the book as a whole.

H. E. MACDERMOT


This volume is intended by the author primarily for the student and general practitioner. The first 50 pages are devoted to consideration of case forms, office equipment and special instruments. There follows a concise chapter on special examinations. Here, as elsewhere, the numerous illustrations are helpful. Nearly half the book is devoted to the ear, the chapters on Progressive Deafness are specially interesting. Mastoid and allied operations are dealt with at sufficient length, and there is a chapter on the internal ear with a description of the vestibular tests. In the section on Diseases of the Nose, a timely warning is given: “Beginners in otolaryngology should realize that conservatism is absolutely necessary,” and that they should be “in a position to take into consideration all those general physical defects in the system which may cause a reaction within the nose itself.” Malformations and injuries receive adequate attention, as do also the common nasal disorders. Medical as well as surgical treatment of diseases of the accessory sinuses is pointed out.

As might be expected, diseases and operations on the tonsil are fully reviewed, the so-called Sluder and dissection method of tonsillectomy being minutely described. The author says: “It makes no difference whether the operation is performed, provided one is sure...