and an easily understood description of the modern equipment for the use of electricity in medicine. Following this is a good epitome of the physiology of electricity in its application to the human body.

The chapter on diseases of the nervous system, while slowly following Tousey, is fairly complete and very conservative and certainly does not advocate electricity as a cure-all for every sort of nervous disease. A short and instructive chapter on high-frequency and one on photo-therapy follow. The rest of the book, about one-half, is devoted to X-ray therapy, the X-ray in fractures, dislocations, foreign bodies, calculi, dentistry and the radiological aspect of the X-ray.

The impression given by the whole book is one of an excellent manual of electrical procedures in medicine and should be especially useful to either a beginner in the field of electro-therapeutics or to any one wishing a good, clear, working knowledge of the science. Much of the satisfaction derived from reading this work is due to the fact that it seems to be the record of the personal experience of the author modifying and organizing and making practical the elaborate and complicated systems of electro-therapy that have hitherto been in vogue.

G. H. T.


The author has given us a compact volume of 233 pages, full of up-to-date obstetrical literature. The subject-matter is laid out systematically, and the different papers, for the most part published in foreign journals, are arranged under their respective heads of Pregnancy, Labor, Puerperium, or the New-born.

In Part I you will find the question of toxemia of pregnancy fully discussed as to etiology, pathology, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, bringing this topic right up to date. Also the treatment of placenta previa, as advocated by the modern European authorities, is concisely and explicitly written in twelve short pages.

Part II deals mostly with operative obstetrics, pelvic contractions and postpartum hemorrhage. The operations of vaginal and abdominal Cesarean section and the newer operations as extraperitoneal Cesarean and the transuterine incision and results of the different advocates are given. Four plates show the different steps in Doderlein operation of "Lateral Extraperitoneal Cesarean Section." Momburg's treatment of postpartum hemorrhage is fully described and criticized.

Part III deals with the modern literature on the management of the puerperium. The major portion is taken up by the chapter on puerperal sepsis.

Part IV on the new-born describes the subject "Fractures and Depressions of the Cranium and its Treatment," also the topic of hemophila neonatorum and its treatment by use of normal blood serum.

The book treats of the practical experience of the obstetrical authorities, especially those connected with large obstetrical clinics of Europe. The editor's comments throughout the book are valuable additions and give one the American point of view.

The reviewer recommends the book to the general practitioner who is doing obstetrics, for it gives him an opportunity to read all the modern obstetrical procedures which he cannot obtain by consulting the ordinary textbooks.

L. I. BREITSTEIN.

**The Surgical Clinics of John B. Murphy, M. D., at Mercy Hospital, Chicago.** Published by W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia. Part I, issued February 1st, 1912. Subscriptions by the year only; four parts per year. Price, paper bound, $8.00; cloth bound, $12.00.

When it was announced that the Clinics of Dr. John B. Murphy were to be offered in book form, the publishers stated that the profession was to be congratulated on the fact that Dr. Murphy had consented to allow the report of his clinic to be presented to the profession. This was not an extravagant statement, for it is generally conceded that the surgical clinic of Dr. Murphy is as interesting and as instructive as it is possible for a clinic to be. Dr. Murphy's method of teaching is almost unique and the fact that his method is appreciated is best seen by the very large attendance at the Mercy Hospital each Wednesday and Saturday, not to mention other times. His teachings are of such interest because all of his reasonings are based upon the pathological conception of disease: this is emphasized in every possible manner.

The Surgical Clinics discusses a variety of conditions, some of which are of the greatest importance, and many of the points that are presented cannot be found in literature and are largely the products of the fertile brain of the author.

The first case reported concerns carcinoma of the breast; in this article, which occupies 12 pages, the entire subject of cancer is gone over and it gives one more real information than can be found in many works on surgery. He first takes up the subject of metastasis, and the reviewer can do no better than to quote the paragraph in this article discussing metastasis to show what an amount of information is presented in a few lines.

"Tumors of the thyroid gland either have a point of election of metastasis or they follow a physiologic selection in their metastasis. There is a definite physiologic relation between the thyroid gland and the long bones, and for that reason metastasis occurring from the thyroid gland takes place in the shafts of the long bones more frequently than in any other position, but not exclusively. I am speaking now of malignant lesions of the thyroid gland. If you have a sarcoma in the thyroid gland, you have a metastatic sarcoma more commonly in the upper end of the tibia and in the upper end of the humerus elsewhere. Then come the bodies of the vertebrae, and less frequently, the other bones. That does not apply to the innocent or benign tumors of the thyroid gland. In these the more common tumor of the metastatic variety, you have from the thyroid gland metastases occurring in tissue which is not microscopically differentiated from normal thyroid gland tissue. These metastases do not occur in the long bones, but in the flat bones, and more particularly in the calvaria—the parietal bones; next in the short bones like the bodies of the vertebrae, and so on. But these are non-malignant metastases of the thyroid gland, so far as we know. When you have tumors of the thyroid gland, they not only metastasize in the bones, but in other structures, and the breast is one of them."

After this the differential diagnosis is taken up and the operation is performed, and during the operation the manner of the extirpation of the growth is discussed; Dr. Murphy does not sever the great pectoral muscle, but splits it, utilizing this muscle later on in the operation for the purpose of filling in the axillary space. He is careful to remove the fascia and glands between this muscle and the small pectoral muscle; he has seen metastasis recur because of this muscle and he does not consider this an important factor in recurrence. Dr. Murphy emphasizes the importance of filling in the axillary space to avoid pressure upon the veins and lymphatics, thereby
preventing the edema of the arm that is so common.

If the axillary veins are torn he maintains that they should always be ligated, never sutured; that there is little danger of hemorrhage on account of negative pressure that exists in the veins. He advocates that the subscapular nerve should not be disturbed, otherwise the woman will not be able to hook her belt from behind; this is a point that is one of the many important points that can be found in this book that are not presented elsewhere.

The final results in carcinoma, he states, have not very materially improved in the last quarter of a century. He maintains that where there is no lymphatic metastases demonstrable at the time of the operation that the patients remain well exactly as they did in former years, but where metastases are demonstrable the results are as bad as they were in former years.

The subject as presented in this one clinic is so rich in valuable information, however, that it is not possible to give a proper review of the same without analyzing each paragraph.

The next case is a lipoma of the shoulder; here he discusses where the incision should be made, the origin of the tumor and the possibility of recurrence. He states that it is important to remove the basal portion, otherwise the tumor will recur.

In lipoma of the spinal column he emphasizes the fact that the periosteum must be removed, otherwise there will be a recurrence of the growths.

The next case presented is a case of varicocele and the comment upon this condition is very instructive. Murphy attaches considerable importance to the backache that occurs; he also goes into the different diagnosis of backache at large in enumerating both the positional and traumatic spondylitis peculiar to coal miners and farmers, metastasis, malignant growths, etc.

The next case is one of nerve anastomosis; here the comments are so important and so well brought out that it is hardly possible to give an accurate idea of the valuable information contained in this one article he takes up the anatomy and physiology of nerves in a very satisfactory manner, and he reports a case of nerve plastic which is well shown by two excellent illustrations.

This raises the question of the regeneration of nerves and he states that time cuts little figure in the factor of restoration of function; that long intervals may elapse between the time of the division of the nerve and the time of its ultimate favorable conditions exist for regeneration. During the period that the nerves are out of commission there is an atrophy of the muscle cells, but there is never complete degeneration of the muscle cells beyond the potency of the nerve cells. He believes that the muscle plates diminish greatly in size but as soon as they are spliced again with living nerves they regain their tone and strength.

The reason that there has been such disparity in results in connection with the suture of nerves is that the axonal ends are not properly exposed; if they are properly exposed in all cases success, according to Murphy, would result.

The next case is one for the injection of salvarsan. Murphy's remarks are very striking in connection with the intravenous use of this drug. He states that no surgeon injects anything into a vein without serious consideration; he also remarks that the inside of a vein is a place that the surgeon greatly respects and that the physicians who are not familiar with the surgical art and pathology of the veins resort to intravenous injection most probably that does the surgeon.

He also takes up the subject of anaphylaxis with its sequelae of sudden death shortly after the administration of salvarsan or serum. Murphy uses salvarsan intramuscularly but does not use it intravenously.

The next subject is cystadenoma of the breast.

Then there is a case of pelvic tumor presented with illustrations.

On the subject of nerve anastomosis involving the muscular spiral nerve it is extraordinary how much information the author has condensed into this lecture. He feels that there is more information concerning the regeneration of nerves to be found in this article than can be found elsewhere.

There is a case of duodenal ulcer also presented. The pathological side as well as the surgical side of this subject is very well presented.

In conclusion the reviewer believes the book to be a most valuable addition to the literature on surgery.

C. G. LEIVISON.

ANOTHER LIQUID SULPHUR FAKE.

A report of the analysis of a proprietary nostrum, Sulphume, by the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory (Jour. A. M. A., Dec. 2, 1911, p. 1853) begins thus: "Many medicinal fakes apparently lead a charmed life. They may be exposed, ridiculed and seemingly annihilated, but in due time they are bound to renew their existence. As a type of such fakes we may take any of the various aliases under which the venerable Vleminckx' solution, after falling into disuse, has been again and again revived and rechristened. A solution which even has forced its way into the pharmacists' formula book, the National Formulary, is made by boiling ordinary sulphur and lime with water and thus obtaining a solution of calcium sulphide. The solution has a rich golden yellow color and a rotten egg odor and because of its odor and of its color appears to appeal to the laity.

Now this preparation with its charmed life has come west and under a new name, or in some new stories is attempting to make a place for itself in the homes of western people. The new name is Sulphurro given to it by its new parents the "C. M. C. Stewart Sulphur Company, Inc., Seattle, Wash." who recommend its use in rheumatism, asthma, goiter, eczema, dyspepsia and all diseases of the stomach, kidneys, skin and blood and modestly suggest that it may also be used as a general douche or as an eye wash. According to the advertising matter which is sent out this new, old fake was re-discovered in the Klondike by a miner who in spite of the vast riches which he claimed to have found still thinks of poor suffering humanity and has made his discovery available to us. In discussing the liquid sulphur fakes the Journal A. M. A. says: "While we are afraid its disgusting odor will continue to be a strong 'talking point' for the stuff, let us hope that in due course of time the public will learn the fallacy of the old idea that anything that is nasty in taste or odor must be 'powerfully good medicine.'"

NAMES OF MEDICAL PREPARATIONS.

To Manufacturers of and Dealers in Medicinal Products:

Gentlemen:—The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, since its organization, has been obliged to refuse recognition to a number of otherwise objectionable preparations, because it has been considered detrimental to the best interests of the public and the medical profession. In the hope that in the future those who introduce new remedies may see their way clear to adopt names which will not be open to objection, the Council has decided to issue this explanatory statement to the manufacturers of medicinal substances.

In the trade, many pharmaceutical preparations or mixtures should be so framed as to indicate the most potent ingredients. An article whose name gives a false impression in regard to its identity would be an invitation to medical quacks to profit by the use of such substances. In such a case the Council believes manufacturers and dealers have a right to be informed regarding its objectionable nature.

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