outlined correctly, there are many defects both in the quality and arrangement of the subject matter. Many chapters begin with the phrase "Points of Interest for the Practitioner" followed by commonplace observations which are really not points at all. Tabes dorsalis is described in a chapter with Friedreich's ataxia instead of its logical place beside General Paresis in the chapter on "Syphilis of the nervous system."

In the matter of treatment the practitioner would expect to get safe and sound advice in such a manual. Well tried methods should receive attention first, and remedies of doubtful value should be clearly indicated. This is not always done. For instance, one gets the impression that intensive salvarsan therapy, silver salvarsan and other arsenical preparations given in courses every four or six months are proper treatment for multiple sclerosis. The reviewer can see no reason why, in this connection, the writers have not avoided the common error of fornicating some foreign work which did not have sufficient merit to warrant a translation at all and they virtually endorse this criticism by making numerous additions to and alterations of the original text. Only in a general way do they indicate what is original and what is not.


This is a thoroughly sound book on tuberculosis. There is probably no other disease around which more writing has accumulated, and it is becoming more difficult to choose what is reliable and up to date. There are certain sources of information, however, which have always commanded respect and may be depended on for guidance, and amongst these the Saranac and Trudeau laboratories rank high. The authors express the hope that this manual, which is the result of their study, and experience in their laboratories, may be useful for those making a special study of tuberculosis, but the book is so clearly written that it will have a more general appeal.

Points which have been and still are the subject of debate are dealt with clearly, but with no dogmatic insistence. Direct inheritance of tuberculosis they point out, is not supported by experimental observations or sound clinical evidence. Baumgarten's theory in particular is discussed, but it is shown to lack the support of facts, particularly the suggestion that the bacillus is conveyed from mother to child as some form of filtrable virus, which is capable of remaining dormant and of later developing into the disease. Unless there is placental disease in the mother the possibility of the child being infected at birth does not seem to be possible. A particularly striking proof of this has been given in the study of 433 French children removed from their tuberculous mothers at birth and placed in the country under special precautions against infection. These children have been frequently examined over a period of five years and none, save positive tuberulous skin reaction has been obtained.

The book may be highly recommended, not only for its material but also for its convenient size and the excellence of its printing and illustrations.


This book, which is more than a monograph, presents the subject in a well turned out, and presentable volume. It is profusely illustrated with good plates.

The first hundred pages contain a description of high frequency currents, bipolar, and monopolar endothermy, and the endothermy knife. It is due to the use of this latter instrument that the author claims he is able to produce many of the excellent results cited. Within these first hundred pages is also contained a definition of the terms employed, such as, endothermy, diathermy, etc., which enables the reader to understand the descriptions given; hitherto much of what has been written in the past is only a maze of misused nomenclature.

The remaining two hundred pages are taken up with the author's attempt to show what electrothermic methods will accomplish when applied surgically to accessible tumours. In support of his arguments he quotes so liberally that the reader is soon placed in a fog of quotations to which there seems no end.

Endothermy is explained up to a certain point, beyond this the student must be taken by experience or an expert. Cases are cited, and pictures shown demonstrating some very remarkable results in the treatment of malignant growths of the face, and mouth. Good results are also shown in cases of rectal, urethral, bladder, and skin lesions after treatment by electrothermic methods. No end results are given.

The index consists of a mixture of references to subject matter, and authors quoted; the latter are very numerous.

The information in this book could have been conveyed to the reader in a much less discursive form, and in that way made more interesting. To anyone wishing to get a good understanding of what endothermy is, the first hundred pages can be recommended, as there one finds an excellent description, concise and understandable, of high frequency currents.


This book was written by one who knows his subject, but probably equally important to the great majority of readers, it was written by one who knows how to impart his knowledge to others. A thorough understanding of the phenomenon of basal metabolism