well illustrated by photographs. In addition to Algiers itself and Hammam-R'irha, there are short notes on many more distant places to which agreeable excursions can be made. The book appears to be issued for private circulation, as no publisher is mentioned.

THE anonymous author of *Memories and Musings of a Hospital Surgeon*⁸ has spent nearly fifty years in hospitals—as a student in London, as a house-surgeon, as an operating and consultant surgeon, and as a hospital governor. He is therefore well qualified to discourse to the layman of hospitals past and present, of patients and children, of operations and treatment in general, of medical education and the future of hospitals. He has little that is new or original to say, but in a manner of amiable rotundity—a compound fracture is described as having “an open wound leading down to the broken bone, thus exposing it to the deleterious influences of external agents”—he gives us, unconsciously, a self-portrait of a surgeon of the older generation. The author's allusions are to his own experiences, to the masters of his own craft, and to the Bible; he is a personal friend of all his poor hospital patients; his character is founded upon his early religious convictions.

We have received the thirty-sixth edition of *Sell's World's Press*,⁹ which forms an accurate and comprehensive directory to the periodicals published in this and other countries. The editor in his foreword records that, owing to the enormous increase in the cost of production, many old and valuable publications have now ceased to exist, while during the past year more than 500 have been forced to increase their selling price. The present edition of this useful directory, with its 35,000 entries, is introduced by a number of articles of interest to those concerned in newspaper production, by, among others, Lord Northcliffe, Mr. Robert Donald, and Mr. H. W. Massingham.

⁸ *Memories and Musings of a Hospital Surgeon*. Glasgow: Maclehose, Jackson, and Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd. 1920. (Cr. 8vo, pp. 198. 7s. 6d. net.)

⁹ *Sell's World's Press*. Founded by Henry Sell. Thirty-sixth edition. Edited by E. T. Brown. London: Sells, Ltd. 1921. (Roy. 8vo, pp. 158; illustrated.)

APPLIANCES AND PREPARATIONS.

An Outfit for Immediate Treatment of Cases of Poisoning.

DR. C. A. STIDSTON (Wolverhampton) writes: An examination of the reports of the Registrar-General for England and Wales alone, for the years 1901-1918 inclusive, reveals the fact that during those eighteen years more than ten thousand deaths have occurred from poisoning, caused by accident, negligence, suicide, or murder. Nearly eight thousand five hundred of these deaths were suicidal. There are no means of estimating how many additional cases of poisoning occurred with recovery, but institutional and private practice justify the assumption that the number of cases that recover greatly exceeds the number of cases that prove fatal. Hence it appears that poisoning is a serious cause of death and illness, and its treatment at the earliest moment is a matter of importance.

Whilst the poisons chiefly taken are commonly known and easily accessible—such as carbolic acid, which caused 1,740 of the deaths quoted above; oxalic acid, which caused 1,439; hydrochloric acid, which caused 1,249; and opium derivatives, which caused 1,062—the following list (compiled from the reports) shows how extensive and varied are the possible sources of fatal or non-fatal poisoning:

Acetic acid; acetanilide; aconite plant; ammonia; aniline; antimony chloride; aspirin; atropine sulphate; A.B.C. liniment; ammoniated tincture of guaiacum.
Barium chloride; belladonna; berries of laurustinus, deadly nightshade, ivy, laburnum.
Chloroform; chloroform; cocaine; coal tar; chromic acid; camphor; copper sulphate; chloride of lime; creosote; camphorated oil; caustic soda and potash; chloral hydrate; cresolene; carbolaene; coal-tar naphtha; colza oil.
Daisies; digitalis; delphinium; dry daisies; Dutch drops.
Ether; eserine; eucalyptus oil; ergot.
Formalin; fluorine acid; formaldehyde.
Gaultheria oil.
Hartshorn oil; hyoscyamus.
Iodine; insecticide.
Lysol.
Methylated spirits.
Nepenthe; nicotine; nitre; nitric acid.
Paraffin; paregoric; potassium chlorate, oxalate, permanganate, bromide, binoxalate, and chloride; petrol; phosphorus; paraldehyde.
Quinine.
Red precipitate; rhubarb leaves.
Sodium nitrate; salts of lemon; sulphonol; sheep foot rot dressing; soldering fluid; soap liniment; sulphuric acid; solanin; sal volatile.

Thymo-cresol; tartar emetic; trional; toxal.
Veronal; vermin destroyer.
Wood spirit; weed-killer.
Yew berries.
Zinc sulphate.

A summons to a case of poisoning is often a cause of bewilderment and dismay to a medical man. He hurriedly tosses a few chance emetics and antidotes into a bag, often owing to the scanty information offered by the messenger, omitting the items essential for dealing with the particular case. The stomach tube is not to be found; the hypodermic case is, perhaps, at the bottom of the midwifery bag, the book on toxicology is lost. To complete the outfit a futile attempt is made to reach an inaccessible chemist, and a delayed arrival finds the patient beyond treatment or only fit for transfer to a distant institution, there to succumb and await the coroner's court. Clearly it is advisable that an outfit containing emetics, stimulants, antidotes, and apparatus for emptying the stomach should be in the possession of every medical practitioner and should be available in the first-aid rooms of works, in police stations, and in the casualty departments of hospitals. This need having been recently and painfully brought home to me by personal experience, I have designed an outfit to prevent delay in future cases. It consists of a small, easily portable, japanned tin case, which opens portmanteau-wise and which, to avoid the tragedy of the lost key, possesses no lock. The contents of the case are all displayed when it is opened, and consist of the following:

Stomach tube and rubber funnel; a smaller tube for children.
Gag to open mouth; gag to pass tube through.
Tongue forceps.
Record hypodermic syringe.
Murrell's book, *What to do in Cases of Poisoning*.
Hypodermic tablets: Apomorphine hydrochlorate, strychnine nitrate, atropine sulphate, morphine tartrate, aconitine, pilocarpin nitrate, digitalin.
Capsules of amyl nitrite.
Pituitrin.
The following in two or four ounce glass-stoppered bottles—with dosage on labels:

Zinc sulphate; sodium chloride; mustard; brandy; coffee; tea; sal volatile; wood charcoal; permanganate of potash; dialysed iron syrup of chloral; magnesia; potassium bromide; chloroform sodium carbonate; sodium sulphate; magnesium sulphate vinegar; tincture of opium; olive oil; castor oil.

Spare bottles.

This outfit has been made and furnished by Messrs. Philip Harris, chemists, of Birmingham.

Nasal "Aseptoids."

WE have received from Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son and Company, Ltd., a sample of "aseptoids" nasal compound, prepared from a formula by the late Dr. Macnaughton Jones. The ingredients are moulded without compression into square-shaped tablets, readily soluble in warm water for use as a gargle or nasal douche; their uncommon shape and appearance make it unlikely that they would be mistaken for medicinal tablets and swallowed.

THE DIARY OF CROSSE OF NORWICH.

THE diary of Bob Sawyer would have been interesting reading. *Mutatis mutandis*, it would have run somewhat on the lines of the well known "Diary of a Resurrectionist," and would have been, in part at least, a record of drinking bouts with Mr. Allen and the Pickwickians. It would not, however, have been a fair representation of the life of medical students then. A hundred years ago there were at least three types of medical students—the Sawyers and Allens, the hard-worked and ill-fed apprentices, and the select class who paid premiums to teachers of repute, and may be said to have been young men with a future. To the last-mentioned category belonged John Greene Crosse, afterwards well known, and now still quoted as "Crosse of Norwich."

Born in 1790 of yeoman parentage in Suffolk, Crosse was well educated by a hard-working father, and never really sank below the line of self-respect and well-being. It was not till he had reached the age of 29 that he, then in practice in Norwich, procured a book with a view "of filling a few of its pages from time to time with memoirs." This was in continuation of his boyish diaries. As became an accomplished practitioner, he now aimed during his remaining life at amassing materials for a classic work on surgery, and "should aspire to no higher pitch of posthumous fame than to have a few memoirs of my life prefixed to my work, in order to show how industrious habits are their own reward, and how obscurity of birth

and disadvantages in education are overcome by steady and honest perseverance."

After this formidably meritorious opening, which suggests a reflection by Herbert Spencer, we meet with this quaint vignette: "I can well remember, when a child put out to nurse in a humble cottage near my father's, that the old lady, of ominous name, *Goody Death*, during a thunderstorm, used to read her Bible in great fear, and offer prayers to appease a justly offended God, humble and contrite for her manifold sins; and I by her side joined her as far as my age would allow in fear and prayer." He lived to find out the secret of summer storms as purifiers of the air and fertilizers of the soil, and to take the then optimistic view of natural phenomena. He was not sent to boarding-school, and for this reason is of opinion that he contracted lifelong unsocial habits. Reading, writing, and arithmetic he learned from a horrifying master. "His stern brow, raucous voice, and long cane, are now lively depicted to my mind." When Mr. Crosse was in his twelfth year, "a Welch gentleman making some mistake at college (not implicating his good character, an *informality* I should call it) found it well to rusticate." Indeed, Mr. "Jones of Jesus," as we will call him, married while still an undergraduate, and was compelled to open a school for a living. The little boy was one of his first pupils. Mr. Jones was "a plodding working man," and an increasing family goaded him into being an excellent teacher. To him Crosse owed a knowledge of Latin and Greek, and laid the foundation of remarkable linguistic attainments under his mild rule. At the age of 15, on his way home from school he tried "a feat in jumping" and broke his leg. "The respectable village surgeon attended me: he was one of the old school; of fine, soft, soothing manners, clean dressed, with powdered head; rode slowly a very well-looking horse; in short, he was a gentleman, and commanded the respect of everyone when he entered the house; he was also a skilful and kind surgeon. What wonder that the idea should be awakened in my mind to be of the medical profession! to be as great a man as he—the Village Doctor! to whom everyone bowed, and who could relieve pain and cure injuries so quickly and skilfully. I had conceived an object of ambition, and the idea never deserted me. I was in a month upon my crutches and soon recovered; a surgical case fixed my future destinies."

For a time, however, after finishing his study of Latin, Greek, French, and Euclid, he was in a lawyer's office and did not like his work. He attended bankruptcy meetings and feasted "at midnight at the expense of the already distracted creditors. Those were good times for lawyers. A learned chancellor, whom I met on one such occasion, I well remember complimenting me on my quickness in counting money; but all would not do, my mind was pre-possessed—I quitted the law to follow my inclination; I made my own choice; it was a pledge to success. The surgeon who cured my leg agreed to take me as his first and only pupil, and I was accordingly articulated in due form for five years."

He took up his residence with Mr. Bayly of Stowmarket, bought a book, and wrote on the title-page: "Hic liber a Johanne G. Crosse fiebat. Augusti 8vo, Anno Domini 1806. On Wednesday, April 3rd, 1805, I broke my leg."

The first entry in the diary runs thus: "Die lunae Augusti 18, 1806. Came to Mr. Bayly's. Rolled up pills, etc." There follow accounts of daily routine. He goes to bed at ten or eleven o'clock, rises from six to eight. On August 27th he "did up a man's leg before Mr. Bayly was up, for the first time. Made a pledget and put it into a boy's ankle. Made 38 pills in the afternoon." His first surgical operation was the drawing of a tooth. Later he went with Mr. Bayly to see Martin Chenery's leg, which was hollow. "Mr. B. ran a silver pin in three inches, and a matter came out."

This first volume ends on January 31st, 1809, and he has then been to many balls and music parties and has lived a civilized life. There is a charming Miss Bayly, who afterwards becomes his wife. Volume II is much more profound, and we find him a deep and careful student of general literature. He reads a *Life of Malesherbes*, the advocate and friend of Louis XVI. "His wisdom I admire, his piety, his liberality, his courage; he was the foe of tyranny, the encourager of learning, the defender of the oppressed. . . . I will endeavour to imitate so virtuous a character, and I pray for the

assistance of Almighty God." He reads *Cornelle* and religious books, and plays a good deal of whist. "I would never trifle so much as to play were it not to please; he has obtained a great point in the art of pleasing who has learnt to trifle well." England being then in the throes of war with Napoleon, he reflects sagely on the proper conduct to observe during times of stress. "It behoves us at all times to keep from every wicked thing, but more especially in time of war and danger." The war is responsible for strange social reverses. "A woman came begging here to-day who was, or had been, mistress of French and music; she says she had a good education and had lived in high life, but a series of misfortunes reduced her to the necessity of begging her bread in her old age. I heard her play on the piano, and though long out of practice and her fingers stiffened by labour and fatigue she showed some knowledge and execution. French she could speak as fluently as English."

Crosse wrote two more volumes of reflections and daily occurrences, the fourth glancing at his early career as a student at St. George's in 1811-13. He became the pupil, and later the lifelong friend, of Sir Charles Bell. In 1812 he studied under him and under Brodie, Brand, Clarke, and Home, and remarks in his journal, "Very industrious all this winter, sitting up constantly till past two a.m." Throughout life he was an ardent student, a man of an intensely earnest character, yet vivacious and joyous in spirit. He became famous as a lithotomist in a district where calculous disease was endemic. As an operator he had few rivals, and his students delighted in his teaching. He died worn out by the multiplicity of his activities at the age of 60. He had burnt the candle at both ends for many years, during which he took notes of all important cases in his public and private practice, wrote and read professional works voluminously, lectured, operated, rode long distances to attend *post-mortem* examinations, and at night, after an exhausting day, would, after listening to a little music, spend many hours in literary pursuits, "trusting to a change of occupation for relief and amusement" rather than to the rest that was so necessary for him. He set a bad if high example, but one that only the few were likely to follow.

Perhaps his best known work is his Jacksonian Prize Essay, "On the Formation, Constituents, and Extraction of the Urinary Calculus." For this he received the diploma of M.D. from the University of Heidelberg, and the year after was elected F.R.S. The original MS. of this important essay, together with his drawings, are in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons. The work was published in 1841; it had three appendices, one of which contains an exhaustive bibliography of calculi and lithotomy. This alone bears lasting witness to the vast extent of his reading. It contains his portrait, showing a nervous, over-intellectual face.

VICTOR G. PLARR.

THE CINEMATOGRAF.

THE multiplication of "Picture Palaces" must be patent to everyone, but few who have made this observation will know what an immense industry there is behind these small and gaily decorated places of entertainment. The production of a film is a very great business. Thousands of actors and actresses are engaged in the work of production in this and other countries, and an examination of a Stock Exchange list will show what a large amount of capital is employed in these ventures, not taking into account the resources of private firms. Until recently little has been heard of the studio side of the industry, excepting an occasional newspaper paragraph that such and such a firm had produced some wonderful film of many thousand feet necessitating the engagement of some hundreds of actors and the expenditure of thousands of pounds. The statements seem like fairy tales, but they can well be believed when the inside of a good-sized studio is seen. Recently other interests have been added from the medical point of view. Dr. Chappé, writing in the *Annales d'Oculistique* in July, 1920, under the title of "Conjunctivite chez les Artistes du Cinéma," stated that cases had been observed in which exposure to the brilliant artificial illumination of the studios had produced attacks of pain and conjunctivitis of transient duration. An earlier account in a trade journal stated that several members of a film company were affected by semi-blindness,