

stomach and duodenum, and as the general format is similar in both they together constitute a two-volume treatise on the alimentary canal.

Dr. Charles Mayo (famous son of a famous father) has written the text to some 94 plates of excellent clear line drawings by Mr. Russell Drake, head of the art studios of the Mayo Clinic, a pioneer department which from its inception has always been renowned for its superb medical illustrations. The book might indeed have been called an atlas, for the drawings are its main feature, to which the text forms, except in some pages of general matter, a commentary. Random selection of certain subjects to test the teaching of the book reveals it to be sound, sensible, and up-to-date. Thus, under the heading "Regional Enteritis" it is advised that medical therapy should be the normal treatment and surgery resorted to only when complications are present; while, in view of the added risk of fistula formation, it is commanded that the appendix "be not removed in the presence of enteritis unless the disease is definitely confined to the region above the ileocaecal valve." This statement is so dogmatic that it is a pity the ambiguous term "above" should have crept into it. To another of the test subjects, however—namely, argentaffin tumours—no reference could be found.

The difference between illustration and performance in surgery is great, perhaps greater than in any other subject. Nevertheless for teaching purposes there can be no doubt that the idealized operation of the drawing-board has many advantages, and as such there can be no criticism of Mr. Drake's work.

This is a straightforward work which contains all that the student and junior surgeon require to know of the technique of intestinal surgery; the abundant illustrations visualize many points which could only be described, and then far less clearly, by much letterpress.

NORMAN C. LAKE.

### THE DIENCEPHALON

*Diencephalon: Autonomic and Extrapyrmidal Functions.* By Walter Rudolph Hess, M.D. (Pp. 79+xii; illustrated. 25s.) London: William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1954.

Professor Hess's life-study of the physiology of the brain stem has constituted one of the important milestones in our advancing knowledge. All his publications have, however, appeared in German, and there has not so far been a single detailed review of his work in the English literature, apart from a recent valuable abstract by P. Gloor in the *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry* (1954, 71, 773).

Professor Hess has now himself condensed an account of his methods, his results, and their implications into a very short monograph, which contains a detailed bibliography of his publications as well as that of some workers in similar fields. It is most surprising that after retirement Professor Hess should have been able to condense his monumental work—which needs eight pages for its bibliography—into sixty short and profusely illustrated pages. It is a measure of the importance of his work that he has been able to do so, and the English-speaking neurologist, whether working in the laboratory or the ward, is indebted to him.

DENIS WILLIAMS.

### SURGICAL PATHOLOGY

*Pathology for the Surgeon.* By William Boyd, M.D., F.R.C.S.(Canada), F.R.S.(Canada), F.R.C.P.(London), LL.D., D.Sc. Seventh edition. (Pp. 737+vi; illustrated. 87s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1955.

The fact that this textbook has in thirty years reached its seventh edition is sufficient evidence of its practical value and of the high position held in the world of pathology by its distinguished author, Professor Boyd. His wide ex-

perience enables him to express with clarity subjects which are often obscure, and to assess the value of the various and often conflicting views which may be held. Beautifully illustrated with typical examples, the whole volume is a masterpiece of careful selection, close reasoning, and admirable presentation. For the student it is a gold-mine; for the surgeon it will be an inspiration, and often a warning.

Under the general pathology of tumours a full discussion is given of modern views of the origin and spread of cancer; and the application of these later on to the special case of cancer of the breast will give many surgeons cause for thought. There could be no better example of the importance of a thorough knowledge of pathology and of the effect which it may have upon vital surgical decisions. From such complex and perplexing considerations it is a pleasure to turn to a superb article on the gall-bladder, and to feel that here at any rate we are sure of our foundations in surgical practice.

HENRY SOUTTAR.

### PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT

*Treatment in Psychiatry.* By Oskar Diethelm, M.D. 3rd edition. (Pp. 545+xii. 69s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1955.

The day is past when an author, however accomplished, can compress a satisfactory account of all forms of psychiatric treatment into one volume. Professor Diethelm's book, first published 20 years ago, outlines a large number of psychotherapeutic measures and also treatment by physical and chemical agents and by surgery. Adolf Meyer's distributive analysis and synthesis is the basis for the method, designated "dynamic psychotherapy," which appeals to the author. This "goal determined" treatment is described as "an analysis along selected dynamic lines and life situations." From the description it will be seen that the treatment is mainly on a conscious level.

A separate chapter is devoted to Freud's *Psycho-analysis*, and for good measure there is a further chapter on other psychotherapeutic procedures, but this is so condensed as to be seriously misleading—for instance, the strange statement that Jung's *Analytical Psychology* is "in many ways a synthesis of Freud and Adler but developed along independent lines." Hypnosis and suggestion, which may sometimes be used in "distributive analysis," are discussed in one of the best chapters of the book. The author is, however, incorrect in his statement that hypnosis was first worked out scientifically by Bernheim and Liébeault. The credit belongs to James Braid, who coined the word "hypnosis," and his brilliant description of it has never been surpassed. Braid's observations on the nature of hypnosis were in fact adopted and extended by the French workers.

The sections on electric convulsion therapy, insulin shock therapy, and the administration of drugs provide an excellent introduction to the subject. The treatment of alcoholism, sexual difficulties, stuttering, and compensation reactions follow conventional lines and are practical and well presented, although too much space is given to description and not enough to treatment. Many authorities are quoted in the book, but their names are not mentioned in the index, nor is there an index of authors. This is unfortunate in a volume which has much to commend it as a book of reference.

E. A. BENNET.

Mr. J. Lyle Cameron's booklet, *Motherhood and the Safe Time Simplified*, will be very useful for doctors to hand to those patients who on medical grounds are advised to avoid pregnancy and who on religious grounds object to artificial means of contraception. Couched in the simplest terms, it explains the safe-period method in a manner that anyone with ordinary intelligence could understand, at the same time pointing out its difficulties in cases where the menstrual periods are not regular. The booklet, which is published by E. and S. Livingstone, Ltd., price 9d., will be equally useful in reverse for aiding cases of relative sterility.