

MASSAGE, MANIPULATION, AND LOCAL ANAESTHESIA

Massage, Manipulation, and Local Anaesthesia. By James Cyriax, M.D. (Pp. 302; 26 figures. 12s. 6d.) London: Hamish Hamilton.

This book is written primarily for "graduate masseuses and the practitioners from whom they receive instruction." A small amount of space is devoted to theoretical considerations, but the greater part of the work comprises practical instruction in dealing with the conditions that the physiotherapist is commonly called upon to treat. The book is wider in its scope than most written on this subject and the method of presentation and arrangement of material is good. The conditions in each part of the body commonly requiring diagnosis and treatment are dealt with, beginning at the head and neck and progressing in an orderly sequence to the ankle and foot. Following this are chapters on the use of local anaesthesia and on traumatic neurasthenia. Terms frequently appear which indicate the empirical nature of much of the treatment and a lack of precise knowledge of the cause of many chronic pains and aches; for example, "rheumatic inflammation" and "capsulitis." Some controversial subjects are dealt with in a dogmatic fashion, and certain definitions are a little hard to accept—for example, "Sciatica is synonymous with pain running down the lower limb from above whatever its origin." There is a good chapter on referred pain, and the importance is emphasized of the use of local anaesthesia in diagnosis and treatment.

The chapters that deserve special mention are those on the alimentary tract and on the use of local anaesthesia. In the former Dr. James Cyriax deals in considerable detail with indications for abdominal massage and the technique that should be used for the various conditions in which this treatment is of value. In the latter he first stresses the difference between diagnostic and therapeutic local anaesthesia; then gives the indications and contraindications for each, and the merits or otherwise of massage in relation to both types of injection. In the chapter on referred pain the diagnostic use of local anaesthesia is also emphasized.

The description of methods of examination of various parts of the body, particularly the back, is very good. Illustrations are not numerous and consist entirely of diagrams. There is a very apt paragraph dealing with the activities of the bonesetter. Those for whom this book is written will find it useful and stimulating.

A NOTEBOOK FOR JUVENILE COURT MAGISTRATES

A Notebook for the Children's Court. By Margery Fry and Champion B. Russell. (Pp. 24. 1s. post free.) Oxford: Howard League for Penal Reform. 1942.

The juvenile courts set up by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, are a vital part of the nation's defence against adolescent crime. To be effective they must be staffed by magistrates with special knowledge of children, their problems, and the ways in which they can be dealt with and assisted. Several valuable books have been written on this work, but these are mostly large and none too easy to read. This notebook is a slim, paper-covered volume into which two experts have put an amazing amount of legal and practical knowledge for the benefit of magistrates of children's courts. They sketch what they have found to be real requirements in the arrangement of the court accommodation, such as waiting-rooms and lavatories. They mention small and important matters like the lighting, which should not dazzle bench or witnesses or accused, and the seating arrangements, which should allow quiet conversation between magistrates, the clerk, the offender, his parents, and the probation officer. They give much useful advice on the way in which the bench should handle the cases, and carefully point out the many pitfalls of law and practice that await the unwary, such as the putting of incriminating questions to a child who is not giving evidence, the failure to warn a child of his right to go before a jury, or too ready an acceptance of a plea of guilty. Throughout this small volume the authors express a constructive and humane spirit; their instruction is all calculated to increase the confidence of accused children, their parents, and witnesses in the kindness and justice of the magistrates, and to help the magistrates

themselves to make the best use of remand, probation, and the other means of disposing of delinquent children. These methods are summarized at the end of the pamphlet in a handy table. Of psychological examination they say that magistrates who make full use of the professional help that is already available are not only doing wisely for the children but are helping to build up a co-operation between science and law which is full of hope for the future.

Notes on Books

A second impression has been published by Edward Arnold and Co. at 63s. of Sir H. HAROLD SCOTT'S *History of Tropical Medicine*, based on his Fitzpatrick Lectures delivered before the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1937-8. These two learned and comprehensive volumes were reviewed in a leading article in the *Journal* of October 7, 1939. The second Great Fire of London destroyed in its path some two million books, among them nearly 500 copies of this work. A reissue has therefore become necessary, and in an appendix the author records certain quite recent advances of importance that have taken place in the history of tropical medicine.

Dr. HARDIE NEIL has produced a third edition of a useful little book on *Ear, Nose and Throat Nursing* (Auckland: Clark and Matheson, Ltd.). In the small compass of 126 pages the subject is covered as a whole but without that special reference to nursing which the title suggests, though the after-treatment of operations is described. The testing of hearing and the vestibular tests are not of much interest to nurses, whereas the feeding of patients, which is of great importance, might be described with more detail and precision. There are also various descriptions of surgical technique, such as the author's method of ligaturing bleeding vessels in the tonsillar fossa, matters which do not concern nurses very much. The general survey of the subject will be, and no doubt has been, useful to nurses, to whom the complicated illumination required in practice renders the subject difficult and a little remote, but the emphasis on nursing is lacking.

Volume XLI of the *Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom* for the session 1941 is published by J. and A. Churchill at 40s. The contents include Mr. Affleck Greeves's presidential address on macular oedema, and a report of the discussion on ocular injuries resulting from the war. One of the sections was devoted to wartime ophthalmology, and Sir John Parsons read a paper on protection of the eyes from war injuries.

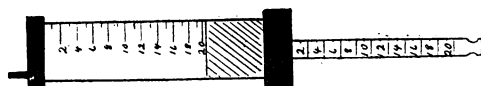
A copy of the *Collected Papers from the Middlesex Hospital* published during 1940-2 has been received from the cancer and general research committee of the hospital, and can be consulted in the Library of the British Medical Association.

The National Institute of Economic and Social Research has made arrangements for its publications to be issued by the Cambridge University Press. There will be two series: "Economic and Social Studies," edited by Prof. A. L. Bowley; and "Occasional Papers," the first of which is *The New Population Statistics*, by R. R. Kuczynski.

Preparations and Appliances

SYRINGE FOR CONTINUOUS INTRAVENOUS ANAESTHESIA

Dr. S. C. LEWSEN, M.R.C.P., writes: For successful continuous intravenous anaesthesia a fairly wide-bore needle introduced deeply into the lumen of the cubital vein is desirable. Splints have been devised to hold the syringe, which should have an eccentric nozzle, in position. I have found a wide piece of elastoplast bound firmly to the syringe and round the arm very adequate and less cumbersome in the majority of cases. It is a simple matter to arrange the direction of the



needle in the line of the vein by judiciously placed pieces of cotton-wool or lint between the arm and syringe. In order, however, to overcome the disadvantage of the elastoplast covering the graduation markings on the syringe, I have had a 20 c.cm. Record syringe made with a wide piston which has a flat surface graduated as shown in the sketch. This syringe was made for me by the Medical and Industrial Equipment Co., Ltd.