

GUIDE TO MYCOLOGY

*Guide Pratique de Mycologie Médicale et Vétérinaire.* By R. Vanbreuseghem. Pp. 206. Illustrated. fr.70.00. Paris: Masson et Cie.

This is an aide-mémoire on fungi and fungous diseases designed for doctors, veterinarians and laboratory technicians. A short general review of the mycoses and pseudomycoses precedes the main section in which the characteristics of the causative agents and the lesions they cause are described. Notes on techniques and culture media, a glossary and a good index follow. There are 414 photomicrographs and photographs of very good quality.

This is the most complete, concise and trustworthy small book on mycology now available. J.M.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

*Progress in Clinical Pathology*, Vol. I. A review of significant advances in the field of clinical pathology. Ed. by M. Stefanini, M.D. Pp. ix + 654. Illustrated. \$23.75. New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1966.

This book, the first in a series, should prove to be an important addition to the literature of both the clinician and clinical pathologist. An introductory chapter on the scope of clinical pathology is followed by a section on the determination of normal values. The remaining 12 chapters contain a wealth of information on the progress made in the various disciplines and the 27 contributors have compiled a bibliography that will be invaluable for further study. The chapter on fluorometric techniques is a veritable comprehensive review on the routine use of fluorescence in the clinical laboratory.

Other aspects covered include computers, electronics, radioisotopes, plasma proteins, enzymes, trace elements and advances in microbiology. The 3 chapters dealing with haemolytic disease of the newborn; screening of newborn infants for hereditary metabolic defects; and biochemistry of diseases of childhood are particularly good. Although rather highly priced this first volume is unhesitatingly recommended. V.W.

SHOCK

*Shock.* Pharmacological principles in treatment. By R. J. Marshall, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.P.I. and T. D. Darby, Ph.D. Pp. xiv + 99. \$5.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1966.

There has been increasing attention in recent years to the pathogenesis and treatment of shock. In this volume the authors have concisely evaluated many varieties of shock, precipitating causes, patho-physiological mechanisms, therapeutic agents, and pharmacological principles of treatment. This is based on their clinical and experimental studies. They provide also at the end of each section a very extensive and valuable reference to the literature. In their 6 chapters they consider the following: Role of the sympathetic nervous system; further pharmacological principles in shock; cardiogenic shock; bacteraemic shock; oligaemic shock; other forms of shock (shock in relation to surgery; anaphylactic shock; shock in endocrine diseases). N.S.

FUNDAMENTELE MEGANISME VAN HIPERTENSIE

*Hypertension*, Vol. XIII. Ed. by S. Rodbard, M.D., Ph.D. et al. Pp. 211. Illustrated. \$2.50. New York: American Heart Association. 1965.

'n Vyftien stuks wetenskaplike verhandelings op die gebied van hipertensie word in boekvorm saamgevat. Die werk verteenwoordig die navorsingsaktiwiteite wat ondersteun word deur die 'Council for High Blood Pressure Research' van die Amerikaanse Hartvereniging. Die verskillende artikels is van fundamentele geaardheid. Daar is eksperimentele werk in verband met meting van renale weefselvog omset; metabolisme en werking van katekolamines; die renien-angiotensien sisteem; outoregulاسie van verskillende vasculêre sisteme, en studies op die arteriolêre wand.

Die inhoud is nie van veel kliniese belang nie en sal alleen van waarde wees vir die fisioloog, die farmakoloog en die navorser op gebied van die fundamentele meganisme van hipertensie. A.J.B.



## ATLAS OF SKIN AND VENEREAL DISEASES

*Atlas der Haut- und Geschlechts-krankheiten.* Fortgeführt von J. Kimmig und M. Jänner. Pp. viii + 307. Illustrated. Dm.176.00. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1966.

This third edition of the Frieboes-Schönfeld *Atlas of Skin and Venereal Diseases* contains 891 colour photographs and a brief descriptive text. All the common dermatoses are described in detail with some rarities and oddments from the tropics. The illustrations are remarkably good and even when the colour is not entirely faithful the point is obvious. It is a pity that a book eminently suited to undergraduates and general practitioners should be so highly priced as to make it a collector's piece. J.M.

## COAGULATION DISORDERS

*Treatment of Haemophilia and other Coagulation Disorders.* Ed. by R. Biggs, B.Sc. (Lond.), Ph.D. (Toronto), M.D. (Lond.) and R. G. Macfarlane, C.B.E., M.A. (Oxon.), M.D. (Lond.), F.R.S. Pp. xvii + 391. Illustrated. R7.50. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1966.

The story of the mechanisms for haemostasis is an ever-unfolding one and in this work the practicalities of the management of the common coagulation disorders are dealt with in great detail.

The unique and personal experience of the authors working at Oxford is put at the disposal of all clinicians and this should prove to be of great benefit, both in reducing morbidity and mortality in these unfortunate patients with a serious yet manageable illness.

An adequate background is given to present-day concepts of blood coagulation. Stress is placed on the value of the history and clinical findings in the accurate diagnosis and emphasis laid on the proper selection of laboratory procedures. The treatment of spontaneous bleeding, of patients after dental extraction, after major surgery, the orthopaedic management and the social implications of haemophilia are all described in full.

There is a chapter on therapeutic materials such as whole blood plasma, human AHG, animal AHG and full information as to the preparation and uses of these materials. An appendix sets out all laboratory techniques, and the text is well illustrated by means of case reports. The only major criticism against this book, however, is the great deal of repetition and one is certain that the whole could have been much reduced in size. A.J.B.

## ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND LIFE SAVING

*Accident Prevention and Life Saving.* Papers given at a Convention held at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, May 1963. Ed. by J. H. Hunt, M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P. Pp. xii + 320. Illustrated. R3.50. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1965.

This is a collection of papers given at a convention held at the Royal College of Surgeons of England in May 1963. It consists of short essays on causes of accidents in the home; causes of accidents on the roads; causes of accidents in industry; and causes of accidents in adventure and sport. Each chapter is succeeded by a group of essays on the prevention of the accidents and their investigation.

In Great Britain 20,000 people are killed in accidents every year and 300,000 sustain an accidental injury, so that the experience made available in these pages is a vast one and the book should be of interest to those whose work brings them into contact with this modern 'epidemic disease'. T.S.

## EXAMINATION OF THE JUGULAR VENOUS PULSE

*Clinical Examination of the Jugular Venous Pulse.* By A. L. Colman, M.D. Pp. xiv + 183. Illustrated. \$10.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1966.

Just as the internal combustion engine eclipsed the steam engine in motor cars, the electrocardiograph superseded Mackenzie's polygraph and rather discouraged the clinical study of the heart and particularly of the venous pulse.

Colman's monograph is a refreshing and successful effort to rectify this sad state of affairs. To the skin over the right

internal jugular vein he attaches a small flap of paper, whose movements are ingeniously recorded by a photo-electric cell connected up to an electrocardiograph, giving a good graphic record.

The second half of the book is an excellent atlas of venous curves taken in many heart conditions, carefully explained and usually compared with simultaneous electrocardiograms.

A book for all those who are interested in clinical cardiology and do not want to degenerate into mere technicians!

H.W.

## TROMBOHEMORRAGIESE KOMPLIKASIES

*Thrombohemorrhagic Phenomena.* By Hans Selye. Pp. xxviii + 337. Illustrated. \$18.50. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1966.

Hierdie kontroversiële skrywer het weer eens 'n publikasie voortgebring wat op kenmerkend entoesiastiese wyse poog om 'n wye spektrum siekteprosesse aan 'n gemeenskaplike patogeen te koppel. Soos in die inleiding verduidelik, word gebruik gemaak van 'n nuwe skryfstyl—'n 'analitiko-sintetiese' stelsel waardeur uittreksels van gekwoteerde verwysings in klein druk in die teks verskyn.

Die leser word in die eerste hoofstuk vertrouwd gemaak met die Sanarelli-Schwartzman reaksie (SSP), en verwante verskynsels. In daaropvolgende hoofstukke dui die skrywer aan hoedat hierdie fenomene beïnvloed en gekondisioneer word deur 'n groot verskeidenheid faktore, bv. bakteriële toksiene, hormone, middels, stres, trauma, orgaanekstrakte, ens.; kenmerkende histologiese afwykings en effekte op die perifere bloed en stollingsprosesse, word bespreek. Die moontlike kliniese implikasies van hierdie reaksies word dan uitvoerig ondersoek en die gevolgtrekking gemaak dat trombohemorragiese komplikasies van uiteenlopende siekteprosesse soos nier-siektes, algemene infeksies en septisemie, swangerskap en toksemie, anafilaetoïde purpura, kollageensiektes, pankreatitis, perifere vasculêre siekte, Moschowitz-sindroom, ens., in SSP en verwante reaksies 'n gemene etiologiese basis mag hê. Ietwat onverwags word die Gasser-sindroom, wat sekerlik kenmerke van hierdie siekte-kompleks toon, nie in die bespreking genoem nie.

Die monograaf lees redelik maklik en bevat 'n massa informasie (1,300 verwysings), maar sy waarde lê in stimulerende postulate, eerder as in feitlike gegewens. A.J.B.

## DOMESTIC ACCIDENTS

*Domestic Accidents.* By E. Maurice Backett. Pp. 137. R1.00. Geneva: WHO. 1965. Obtainable through Van Schaik's Bookstore, Pretoria.

Domestic accidents, for obvious reasons, lack the drama that accompanies the tale of assaults and traffic injuries. Nevertheless the increasing use of more complicated mechanical equipment in the home and the potentialities of accidents due to electricity in almost every kitchen and living-room has increased enormously the risks to the housewife. High glossy finishes on flooring, which is a trend now happily diminishing, are likewise responsible for a great number of accidents of varying degrees of severity.

The increasing use of electrical equipment in developing countries where the inhabitants have not yet learned to recognize the dangers of the washing machine, the power tool or the electric stove, is responsible for many accidents to the careless or the ignorant users; but every technical advance carries its own hazards. The increase in the use of polythene bags has been responsible for the deaths of many children who have pulled these empty, transparent and attractive bags over their heads and have consequently suffocated. Many other examples are adduced in this most useful booklet.

Prof. Backett gives comprehensive attention in separate chapters to the special problems of method, to a discussion of the cost to the country of home accidents, to the epidemiology and to educational control and preventive measures. Of special interest is a check-list for prevention and control of individual domestic accidents which is contained in an annexure and which, if used intelligently and popularized, could do a great deal to reduce the growing death rate of what is an eminently preventable occurrence. T.S.