TECHNIQUE IN TRAUMA

By FRASER B. GURD and F. DOUGLAS ACKMAN. Published by Wm. Heinemann—Medical Books Ltd. 1945. Price 15s.

This book is a summary of several articles written by the authors describing their technique in the treatment of burns in the Montreal General Hospital. There is nothing new in their views or their treatment which is essentially that of primary treatment of shock followed at an interval by thorough cleansing of the burned tissues under anaesthesia with the application of sulphanilamide on vaseline gauze as a dressing to be followed at an early interval by skin grafting.

In this country we have had recently several first-class books written on this matter of shock and burn therapy and one cannot say that the present book fulfils any special purpose. Its style is rather repetitive.

ANATOMY

as a basis for Medical and Dental Practice

By DONALD MAINLAND, M.B., D.Sc.(Edin.), Professor of Anatomy, Dalhousie University, Halifax. Published by Hamish Hamilton Medical Books. Price 35s.

Professor Mainland has developed a system of teaching anatomy based on making the student examine the body and look up extensive references in the literature of other anatomy books. By this system the author considers that the student, by dint of the hard work of looking up references, is far more likely to remember anatomy than if he merely read it up out of text-books written in the orthodox manner.

No illustrations are to be found in this book and the reviewer would feel that it is difficult to say for what type of English medical student the book would be of most help. Probably the man who already knows anatomy and wants an unusual book to read up for his primary

Fellowship, would find the novelty of this method of teaching would bring its reward, but certainly the system could not be recommended to replace the well-known and illustrated text-books of anatomy upon which we in this country have been brought up.

THE MARCH OF MEDICINE. THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE LECTURES TO THE LAITY, 1944.

Columbia University Press, New York. Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, London. 1945. Price 11s. 6d. net.

Notoriously the Juvenile Christmas Lectures at the Royal Institution attract a generous sprinkling of delighted adults, while the most eloquent listeners to the Laity Lectures at the New York Academy of Medicine have always been members of the medical profession. The latter's ninth annual volume, in which the very new unhurriedly rubs shoulders with the very old, is certain to enchant and refresh many medical men on this side of the Atlantic, especially those who have drunk deep of the waters of sophistication. No fads or fashions here, no prejudices of the moment. No loose ends that do not make a specific pattern. "War and the Expanding Frontiers of Medicine" is the general theme, with the following chapters: "Morale and Propaganda," by E. A. Strecker; "Food and Civilisation," by C. G. King; "The Past, Present, and Future of Chemotherapy," by C. M. MacLeod; "Medicine and the Changing World," by Reginald Fitz; "The Effects of Science upon Human Beings," by Sir Gerald Campbell (unembarrassingly philosophical and crisp as scandal); "War and Epidemics," by T. T. Mackie. Each contributor writes with deceptive simplicity, like a man who, as the quaint expression goes, has exercised the muscles of his mind.

This little book is attractive both intellectually and physically, and has a good index.

MEDICAL NEWS

A clinical meeting of the Medical Society of the L.C.C. Service was held at Bethnal Green Hospital on Wednesday, 6th March, when cases were demonstrated by the staffs of Bethnal Green and Hackney Hospitals. There were 90 members present. Following the demonstration, there was discussion upon some of the cases including the use of silver filigree for operation upon herniæ.