PRACTICAL METHODS IN BIOCHEMISTRY.


There is already a sufficiency of good books on practical biochemistry, so that in order to justify its existence any new work must have some special excellence and this we feel is the case with "Practical Methods in Biochemistry."

The chapters on carbohydrates, lipins and proteins are very good and contain short theoretical accounts explanatory of the various characteristic tests described. The account of hydrogen ion concentration is less happy; partly because the theoretical consideration is too short; this should be either amplified or omitted. Further, the actual method of the concentration chain merits detailed description. In the case of gastric digestion the use of the two indicator method for estimating free and combined acidity is not clearly explained, although the intelligent student would probably discover the necessary details in the chapter on hydrogen ion concentration. There are excellent chapters on blood analysis and a full account of Van Slyke's methods. Most of the methods described are satisfactory, but we have not found the estimation of potassium according to Breh and Gaebler to be accurate. These are only minor points however, and this book should prove of real value to students of biochemistry and to biochemical specialists seeking a short and accessible work of reference. It should also be useful to medical students taking their second examination, although the territory covered is a good deal more extensive than they are likely to traverse.

A MANUAL OF TUBERCULOSIS.


It is a pleasure to welcome this new edition of Dr. Underwood's book, which has now been considerably enlarged to appeal more directly to a widening circle of readers. Originally written as a guide for nurses engaged in tuberculosis work, this book now contains much valuable information and is an equally helpful guide for all those indispensable units in this work, almoners, hospital administrators, members of local authorities and tuberculosis care committees. For the modern nurse tuberculosis in all its aspects is adequately dealt with; the main principles are well brought out, and the nurse's duties and responsibilities in the management of the various classes of patient are described fully. Modern treatments, artificial pneumothorax and the various surgical procedures for pulmonary tuberculosis, gold therapy, heliotherapy, the recent changes in the treatment of surgical tuberculosis, are all given due prominence; and in other ways, as on the epidemiological and administrative aspects, the book is fully up to date, though it is perhaps a pity that there is no mention of P.P.D. in dealing with the tuberculins. The writing is clear, and there is a useful summary at the end of each chapter. The reviewer knows of no book in our language which so adequately covers the same field and for the same class of readers, as this one; and it is confidently anticipated that this edition will enjoy an even greater success than the earlier one, for it is a book that can be recommended to all who are interested in and have to deal with tuberculosis problems.

PRE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL MANAGEMENT.


Mr. St. George Wilson in this manual has produced a concise record of the essentials of his subject without including the wider conceptions of pre-natal and post-natal management. It is a work completely without "padding" and is characterized throughout by a dogmatism which is laudable. The