ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IN RADIOLOGY.

A Treatise on the Nature and Function of Electrical Equipment for X-ray Work in Medicine and Industry.

By L. G. H. SARSFIELD, M.Sc., M.I.E.E.,
A. Inst. P., Research Department, Wool-
wich. Chapman & Hall. 1936. Price 25/-.

X-ray apparatus is becoming apparently simpler to manipulate. This has encouraged its use by push-button operatives, such as shoe-shop assistants, and even, it must be confessed, some medical practitioners. This book would convince such workers that the apparatus is by no means simple, and it is obvious that the best use of any plant cannot be made unless one knows "how it works."

No book has been published in any language which describes in fundamental detail the engineering side of X-ray work, and most of the information which is available has been obtained from books on radiology in which the section is little more than a set of manufacturer's illustrations.

The design and construction of X-ray apparatus is a specialized development in the electrical engineering world. The author has dealt with all the apparatus that a radiologist uses, and in that he has been merciful with his use of mathematics. The book should appeal to the medical mind. Its wide scope is shown in that it deals with X-ray transformers, filament transformers, rectification, voltage, multiplying circuits, and constant potential equipment, electrical measurements and tests, high-voltage transmission, control gear, layout and fittings, the X-ray tube, maintenance, and electrical safety. The plant described includes the most recent developments.

The book is easy to read, even for one with only a moderate knowledge of electricity. It is well illustrated, and the diagrams especially are most helpful. The book will be an invaluable aid to such as are working for a diploma in Radiology, and in fact, for them must be considered an essential. The worries of X-ray apparatus manufacturers would probably be considerably reduced if all who utilized X-rays had a thorough knowledge of the contents. The author is to be congratulated on producing a useful and helpful book.

THE TREATMENT OF ACUTE POISONING.

By H. L. MARRIOTT, M.D., M.R.C.P.
Middlesex Hospital Press. 1936. Price
5/- net.

This excellent little book is welcome in these days of mental stress, for the number of cases necessitating urgent treatment must amount in the British Isles alone to many thousands a year. Dr. Marriott's extensive personal experience in one of the large London hospitals is set forth in a very helpful fashion. He rightly stresses the importance of elimination of any poison as rapidly as possible, and lays much more emphasis on this than on so-called specific treatment. He has set out the most readily applicable methods for artificial respiration, stomach lavage, colon lavage, continuous drip intravenous saline, lumbar puncture, etc., in a clear and most helpful manner, and the details he gives are from his own personal experience. We would strongly recommend this book as one which should be on the bookshelf of every medical practitioner, and which should be read at least two or three times by everyone to absorb the numerous useful points with which the book is so richly supplied.

TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE BY VARIOUS AUTHORS.

(Third Edition).

Edited by J. J. CONYBEARE, M.C., M.D.
E. & S. Livingstone. 1936. Price 21/-.

As medicine is making such rapid progress in many departments it is essential that text-books for students, and medical practitioners also, should be frequently revised and published in a form and at a price that will encourage their use. These latter conditions are fulfilled in Conybeare's Medicine. This volume gives a concise, accurate and most readable account of the various diseases, their pathogenesis and treatment, and we are convinced that it will continue to occupy a foremost place among the text-books on medicine of to-day.