

REPORT OF AFFILIATED SOCIETY.

The St. John's Hospital Dermatological Society (incorporating The London Dermatological Society).

Meetings will be held at St. John's Hospital, 49, Leicester Square, at 4.15 p.m. on:—

- Wednesday, November 28th, Clinical Cases and Paper.
 ,, January 23rd, Clinical Cases.
 ,, February 27th, Clinical Cases and Paper.
 ,, March 27th, Clinical Cases.
 ,, April 24th, Clinical Cases and Paper.
 ,, May 22nd, Clinical Cases and Annual General Meeting.
 ,, June 26th, The Prosser White Annual Oration.

REVIEWS.

HYPNOTISM IN THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES.

By B. LAYTON LLOYD. Published by John Bale Sons & Danielsson Ltd. Price 3s. 6d.

This book has the merit of being short and straightforward. One gets the impression that the author is successful as a remover of symptoms by hypnosis, and one cannot help agreeing with him that there is much of practical and theoretical interest in the results of hypnotic therapy and experimentation.

Nevertheless, it is not possible to go further and give the author credit for adding to our understanding of the theory of hypnosis. He seems to ignore the last 40 years' work on the unconscious, and he does not deal with the unconscious emotional relationship between hypnotist and patient; nor does he attempt to justify the removal of symptoms (by whatever method) without treatment of underlying causes.

Some experimental work is recorded, which, as far as it goes, is interesting, and the book should be read for this. Subjects were told not to react to drugs, and were then tested with large doses of calomel. Reactions to certain drugs were modified, or imitated by commands to subjects under hypnosis. Perhaps the author would have been wiser to have written a scientific paper round these experiments than to have written this book with the experiments nearly lost in the general enthusiasm!

MODERN TREATMENT IN GENERAL PRACTICE.

Edited by CECIL P. G. WAKELEY. The Medical Press & Circular. 1934. 10/6.

As stated in the Preface this volume consists of a re-issue of a series of articles which have appeared in *The Medical Press & Circular* on various medical topics and which it was thought would be welcomed, as numbers of the various issues of the *Journal* containing the articles were often requested.

The volume contains some 56 chapters dealing with many medical, surgical, ophthalmological and dermatological conditions in the adult and the child. The articles are concise and any illustrations provided are unusually good. As, however, four chapters are devoted to eye conditions, two to pleurisy, two to anæmia and three to jaundice and gall-bladder mischief, and as much on symptomatology is also included, the field of therapeutics reviewed is less than the size of the volume would suggest and hence we are inclined to consider the title somewhat misleading, since the prospective purchaser will expect a more complete therapeutic encyclopædia than he will find.