REVIEWS.

DIAGNOSIS AND NON-OPERATIVE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE COLON AND RECTUM.

By GOTTWALD SCHWARZ, M.D., JACQUES GOLDBERGER, M.D., and CHARLES CROCKER, M.D. H. K. Lewis & Co. Ltd. 1937. Price 40/-.

This book which is written by three different authors, a German, an Austrian and an American, deals mainly with the diagnosis of diseases of the colon and rectum, and any treatment described is confined entirely to non-operative methods.

The different sections of the book are very well treated, and the diagnosis most carefully considered.

The book starts with chapters on anatomy and physiology and the various means of diagnosis. The authors describe the different types of sigmoidoscope, but favour a new German instrument which works like a cystoscope with indirect vision through prisms. It is unfortunate that types of specula and sigmoidoscopes most commonly used are not illustrated. The reviewer has no practical experience of this instrument beyond having seen it, but doubts very much whether it is anything like as practical an instrument as the ordinary sigmoidoscope. It certainly has the disadvantage of being far more complicated and a great deal more expensive.

The various methods of diagnosis are very carefully described and there is an admirable chapter on the laboratory examination of fæces with illustrations of all the different foreign substances which may be seen under the microscope, and an excellent description of the various parasites commonly met with in the stools.

The best chapters in the book are those on X-ray diagnosis. These are all admirable and many of the illustrations are beautiful examples of the way in which diseases of the colon can be diagnosed by means of X-rays. Indeed the book is worth buying just for the sake of the chapters on X-ray diagnosis.

The subjects of diverticulosis and diverticulitis are well treated and there are some very good descriptions of the diagnosis of carcinoma of the colon.

Such subjects as colitis are very thoroughly treated and there are some very admirable illustrations, several of them in the form of coloured plates, illustrating the different kinds of acute and chronic colitis.

Curiously enough the authors describe Megacolon and Hirschsprung's disease as different entities in the chapter on X-ray diagnosis, though, of course, they are only different names for the same condition.

The surgical treatment of diseases of the rectum and colon are not dealt with, although all the common conditions are described together with the diagnosis.

The book is extremely well got up; it is well written and has full tables of reference and a good index. This book should form an extremely valuable addition to any surgeon's or physician's library, and can be most thoroughly recommended as a book of reference.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

By DAVID LEES. (3rd Edition.) E. & S. Livingstone. 1937. Price 15/-.

David Lees' "Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Disease" made for itself a reputation some seven years ago when the first edition was published. Nowhere in the British Isles was venereal disease more thoroughly treated than in the Clinics of Edinburgh under the control of David Lees. It was therefore not surprising that the Edinburgh textbook on the subject was well received. The third edition which has been edited and revised by his nephew, Robert Lees, has recently appeared. In the work of bringing this book up to date, the editor has been assisted by Drs. R. Cranston Low, dermatologist, W. R. Logan, bacteriologist, and R. C. L. Batchelor, Director of the Venereal Department of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Many additions and alterations will be found in the chapter on syphilis of the nervous and cardio-vascular