

whereby individuals are assessed according to the predominance of one or other of their bisexual characters.

These so-called constitutional methods are applied in turn to such medical diseases as peptic ulcers, gall-bladder disease, diabetes, goitre, rheumatoid arthritis, not as individual criteria, but as essentials in arriving at some conception of the individual as a whole.

This book of sound and meritorious work, well presented by authors and publishers alike, deserves wide consideration, for the reader will find not only many thought-stimulating ideas, but scope for clinical improvement.

REGIONAL ANALGESIA

By H. W. L. MOLESWORTH. H. K. Lewis & Co., London, 1944. Price 8s. 6d.

The main part of this book describes techniques for local analgesia, the descriptions being arranged on a regional basis. There are also chapters on general principles and the principles of the various methods, and the book ends with a short chapter on spinal analgesia. There are many excellent illustrations and photographs; the type is clear and the paper of pre-war quality. Mr.

Molesworth states in the preface that he "has not aimed at writing a text-book, but rather an account of his personal experience with a method which has been interesting and useful." In this, perhaps, lies the chief value of the book; the personal touch is present throughout. Anyone interested in the possibilities of regional anaesthesia should feel stimulated to try out the various techniques: the directions given are clear, concise, and easy to follow, even by those with little or no previous practical experience. They should be of particular use to candidates preparing for the D.A. examination.

There are three points of criticism. First, Mr. Molesworth lists as analgesic drugs Novocain, Tutocain, Percaine and Cocain. One wonders why he does not mention Amethocaine, which has the advantage of combining the rapid action of Novocain with the prolonged action of Percaine. Secondly, combined anaesthesia is dismissed rather summarily as a "compromise!" nevertheless, in the opinion of many, it is the method of choice for the majority of cases, to be avoided only in the very ill or comatose patient. Thirdly, no references are given; this, of course, is a matter of personal choice, but with a small book of this kind it is always convenient if one can refer to larger and more detailed works.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The following books have already appeared or are being published in the near future. Reviews of some of them will be presented in these pages at a later date.

The Premature Baby

1st Edition. By V. MARY CROSSE, M.D. With introduction by Professor LEONARD G. PARSONS. Size: 8 × 5 ins. About 150 pages. Price about 10s. 6d. Publisher: J. & A. Churchill, Ltd.

"... intended for the use of the Medical and Nursing professions, and the statistical summary will be of importance to Medical Officers of Health and others. The author is head of the City Maternity Unit at Birmingham."

Intestinal Obstruction

1st Edition. By JUDSON T. CHESTERMAN, F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S. Size 8½ × 5½ ins. About 150 pages. Price about 10s. 6d. Publisher: J. & A. Churchill, Ltd.

What is Life?

The physical Aspect of the Living Cell. With an Epilogue on Determinism and Free Will, by ERWIN SCHRODINGER, Senior Professor at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Cr. 8vo. 100 pp. 12 text-figures. 4 plates, one in colour. Price about 6s. Publishers: Cambridge University Press.

"Some of the most recent discoveries and advances in genetics related to structures (within the cell nucleus) known as chromosomes, and the genes of which they are composed. . . ."

Forward Surgery in Modern War

3rd Edition. By W. H. OGILVIE, M.A., M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S., etc., Major-General, Consultant Surgeon, Eastern and South-Eastern Commands. Price: 10s. 6d. (5s. 6d. to doctors serving with any of H.M. Forces). Publisher: Butterworth & Co.