

selection of such aids to description. The publishers deserve high praise for the presentation of the subject matter in such a readable form.

This book is a full treatise on the subject of obstetrics, containing all that is necessary for the discerning student, the post graduate reading for higher degrees and the practitioner faced with any problem concerning the pregnant and parturient woman. All concerned in its production are to be congratulated.

R.C.P.

THE CARE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN THE HOME

By JAMES MAXWELL, M.D., F.R.C.P. 2nd Edition. Pp. xii + 112. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1947. 7s. 6d.

In most departments of medicine there is an increasing tendency for practising physicians to take their patients more and more into their confidence. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the management of tuberculosis; and in no department of clinical medicine is it more important to carry the patient along with you for some part of the way at least, and to impress upon him the fact that success cannot be achieved by the skill of one party alone but by both parties acting in harmony. A man is more likely to lead the prescribed life at a lower tempo, and to submit to whatever procedures are recommended, if he understands the reason behind the advice. Mistakes due to ignorance are thus avoided.

Dr. Maxwell has written this book for the layman-patient and has set out clearly the story of tuberculosis and the essential principles underlying successful management. The value of rest, the need for sanatorium routine, the place of collapse therapy in treatment, and the subsequent modifications in daily life that are often required when the stage of active treatment is passed, are all discussed. The author comes out into the open with regard to such less orthodox remedies as umckaloabo, which is discussed without bias.

This is a helpful book to the patient and not without its uses to the physician. It forms an attractive slim volume and can be recommended.

N.L.R.

TECHNIQUES IN PHYSIOTHERAPY

Edited by F. L. GREENHILL, S.R.N., M.C.S.P., T.H.T. Pp. x + 222, with 37 illustrations and 8 plates. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1948. 12s. 6d.

This book on 'Techniques in Physiotherapy' invites a good deal of criticism. The writing is sketchy and the techniques include some unorthodox methods of treatment such as the recommendation that in spastic cerebral palsies, sinusoidal baths are of value. This is entirely contrary to the general medical view. A number of generally accepted modern techniques based on scientific principles are not mentioned and the general arrangement leaves a good deal to be desired. For

example, the headings of the chapter on 'Specialized Methods in Physiotherapy,' include not merely one physical method, namely paraffin wax baths, but also symptoms such as headaches, incontinence of urine, air deafness and diseases such as antritis. These should hardly be headings under specialized methods of physiotherapy. The treatment of the rheumatic diseases both in clinical description and in treatment is confused. The reviewer cannot recommend this book.

B.K.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

A Synoptic Guide to Treatment

By BEATRICE M. WILLMOTT DOBBIE, M.A., M.B., D.M.R.E., F.R.C.S. Pp. xii + 358, with 22 illustrations. London: H. K. Lewis. 1948. 20s.

This book does not claim to be a textbook but rather a practical guide to diagnosis and treatment in everyday obstetrics and gynaecology. In Part I the author has set herself the well-nigh impossible task of writing a full account of the hazards of domiciliary midwifery, yet striving to avoid making it too attractively tempting for the beginner to take a hand. Perhaps the best description of this section's appeal would be to say that it is highly suitable for the obstetric registrar and rather unsuitable for the G.P. novice. It contains an abundance of practical information, and in this it will be of particular value to the not-so-senior member of the modern flying squad and obstetric team. The advice is dogmatic and at times provocative, yet this must be so in a synopsis, and there is always an underlying common-sense reasoning.

The gynaecological section is excellent. It consists of a broad survey of common conditions, sensibly grouped, with an outline of the necessary diagnoses, and a good deal of detail as to modern treatment. There are useful chapters on sterility, contraception and the psychological aspect—all extremely apt subjects. Altogether this is a very readable and highly commendable book and an invaluable vade-mecum to anyone taking up obstetrics and gynaecology.

R.C.P.

PROGRESS IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

Edited by RAYMOND DALEY, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., and HENRY G. MILLER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. Pp. xi + 356, with 22 figures and 15 plates. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1948. 21s.

It is now less than six months since this book first appeared; and the fact that it has already been reprinted serves to indicate its wide demand by the medical profession.

The young Editors of this first-rate publication deserve high praise for having undertaken and carried through so successfully the unenviable and difficult task of presenting, in a precise and interesting form, the important advances that have