Books received


Book reviews

Anatomy, Regional and Applied


It is a pleasure to welcome yet another edition of this popular textbook of Anatomy. The book has come to be widely read by postgraduate students preparing for the Primary Fellowship Examinations of the Royal College of Surgeons, and it is difficult to think of any other work which deals with their requirements so adequately and so compactly.

The book has inevitably increased in size since the first edition, but the additional pages, particularly those devoted to osteology, have served to enhance the usefulness of the book.

As one would expect in a book which sets out to cover a vast and detailed subject such as Human Anatomy in so short a space, there is some imbalance in the treatment of the various organs and systems of the body, but instances of this are remarkably few.

The illustrations—especially the photomicrographs—and the production of the book generally are of a high quality.

The book can be recommended, not only to those preparing for examinations in Anatomy, but to clinicians who may from time to time wish to refresh their knowledge and understanding of anatomical details and principles. The book should have a place on the shelves of every hospital library.

Surgical Disorders of the Peripheral Nerves


Sir Herbert Seddon is a world famous Orthopaedic Surgeon, a scholar, and a master craftsman of his art and a book written by such a distinguished and well informed person can truly be regarded as a masterpiece. This is such a book. It delights as much as it informs and is an outstanding contribution to knowledge of trauma to the peripheral nerves.

The first four chapters deal with the structure of the peripheral nerves, the processes involved in the degeneration and regeneration of nerve fibres and to clinical and electrical methods of examining the nerves and recording the findings. The next eight chapters deal with the common causes of nerve injury, neurovascular and compressive damage to the nerves, other topics of nerve injuries, nerve tumours and clinical assessment of individual nerves of the upper and lower limbs. A chapter is devoted to forms of treatment required apart from surgery. Indications for surgical intervention, practical details of exploration, suture, neurolysis and repairs of large gaps in nerve troubles are described lucidly and with remarkable reasoning. The seventeenth and last chapter shrewdly summarizes the results of nerve repairs.

It has been a pleasure to review this book not only because of the mature and masterly way in which the facts are presented but because it is written by a scholar who is an