

diseases, in a temperate climate. In discussing diseases such as sprue, dysentery and kala-azar, he has given a good account of the best practice, but in other, chronic diseases, such as leprosy, he is obviously at a loss and has beaten round for isolated remarks by writers on these diseases, which, taken from their context, are not really very helpful. He has further confused matters by including certain diseases which are aetiologicaly associated with the eating of poisonous substances; this subject is outside the scope of the book, as well as being inaccurate in some cases.

Professor Cathcart in his introduction mentions the young hospital-trained general practitioner, who orders a 'light diet' for his patient and sincerely hopes that he will get past the door before he is questioned further on the subject. Now at least he will be able to look it up when he gets home, in case, after a successful escape on his part, the patients' relatives should telephone for the information.

It is a very valuable addition to the practitioners' reference library. Its use in this country will naturally be limited, but as the principles as well as the practice are there, a little adaptation only will be necessary.

SILICOSIS AND ASBESTOSIS.—By Various Authors. Edited by A. J. Lanza, M.D. 1938. Oxford University Press, London. Pp. xxvi plus 439. Illustrated. Price, 25s. Obtainable from Oxford University Press, Bombay and Calcutta

THE death and morbidity rates are much lower in the advanced industrialized countries of the west than in India, but the credit is not all on one side, and against the better housing and better food of the industrial worker is the direct result of the industry itself on his health.

We have scarcely begun to study this aspect of industrial advance in India, but we shall have to do so, and it is fortunate for us that much ground work has been done in Great Britain and in America, and also in South Africa where conditions are closer to those in this country.

This monograph on pneumoconiosis, or pneumoconiosis as they prefer to call it in this book, is a valuable summary of our present knowledge on this subject, written by six experienced workers in this field: four are American and two British.

There is a good historical summary. The subject is dealt with on a geographical basis; the seven countries mentioned are Great Britain and her three largest colonies, Germany, Italy, and the United States. The subsequent chapters are on aetiology and symptomatology, x-ray diagnosis (the writer shows a tendency to wander from his subject, e.g., he includes a paragraph on the sedimentation rate), pathology, experimental pathology, the occupational, preventive and legislative aspects in Great Britain (by Dr. E. L. Middleton, H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories), and the public health and economic aspects in the United States.

The subject is clearly and concisely presented by the various writers, and the book is well illustrated. It is a book that is essential for the sanitarian, and especially the industrial hygienist, in this country, and every medical officer who works amongst miners should certainly obtain a copy.

THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATISM IN GENERAL PRACTICE.—By W. S. C. Copeman, M.A., M.D., B.Ch. (Cantab.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.). Third Edition. 1939. Edward Arnold and Company, London. Pp. viii plus 276. Price, 10s. 6d.

THIS is the third edition of a book that has already earned a reputation as a sound guide for the general practitioner in dealing with rheumatism and allied conditions.

The author claims that his book is the first of its kind, that is, a book by a general physician in which the whole subject of rheumatism is treated impartially. No one form of treatment is emphasized, as is the case in so many books on the subject; this enthusiast advocates vaccines, that hydrotherapy, another light,

and yet another diathermy; then there are the searchers for septic foci, the bowel washers, the chemotheraputists, and dietitians. Dr. Copeman weighs them all up and if the mixture is more like weak tea than strong wine, it is precisely for this reason that it is better for reader's patients.

This new edition has been largely rewritten and brought thoroughly up to date and we can very strongly recommend it to the general practitioner in this country.

RHEUMATISM.—By B. S. Nissé, M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Eng.). 1938. John Bale Medical Publications, Limited (85, Great Titchfield Street, W.1), London. Pp. 168. Price, 5s.

THE author, who is one of the honorary physicians to that excellent institution the British Red Cross Clinic for Rheumatism, Peto Place, has written a concise, readable and practically useful book on rheumatism, in its widest sense. The book is divided into three parts; these are on rheumatic fever, that is, acute and sub-acute rheumatism, fibrositis, and arthritis, respectively.

The treatment advocated for each condition is in conformity with modern views on the subject, and the author has no particular specialization which he emphasizes at the expense of other forms of treatment.

The book is published in a very attractive form, with an artistically very satisfactory page. It is bound in unvarnished cloth which provides no temptations to fauna of the Indian desk and open bookshelf.

PRINCIPLES OF DIAGNOSIS, PROGNOSIS AND TREATMENT: A TRILOGY.—By R. Hutchison, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P. Second Edition. John Wright and Sons, Limited, Bristol. Pp. 53. Price, 3s. 6d.

THIS now almost classical essay has been reprinted and published in a very attractive form.

It is a small book that could be read in an hour, but every word is worth remembering and acting upon.

The volume would make a very suitable gift for a medical man.

THE COMPLETE PEDIATRICIAN PRACTICAL, DIAGNOSTIC, THERAPEUTIC AND PREVENTIVE PEDIATRICS. FOR THE USE OF MEDICAL STUDENTS, INTERNES, GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND PEDIATRICIANS.—By W. C. Davison, M.A., D.Sc., M.D. Second Edition—Completely rewritten. 1938. The Duke University Press, Durham, N.C. Pp. vi plus 250. Price, \$3.75.

THIS book might equally well have been called 'potted pædiatrics'. It is a really American production, with its characteristic efficiency and its equally characteristic limitations. For quick reference it would be hard to beat, and the information is on the whole accurate, but it is perhaps 'potting' a little too much to say that 'as the symptoms of kala-azar and sleeping sickness are the same as those of malaria, the diseases will be described together'. However, a surprising amount of useful information has been crowded into the two columns of each page. It takes a little time to get used to finding diseases: it is not, for example, immediately clear why one should look under the gastro-intestinal group for yellow fever, under skin conditions and contagious diseases for tick typhus, and under circulatory, metabolic and glandular diseases for malaria. But there is a good index and one learns.

The author doesn't hold with the niceties of Latin grammar and prefers the forms *Stegomyia fasciatus* and *Aedes aegyptus* to the more usual ones.

This is a second edition and we quite agree that the changes are improvements: also the subject-matter has been brought completely up to date. The format is an attractive one. It is a book we can recommend to those to whom it is dedicated—medical students, internes, general practitioners, and pædiatricsians.