

General Notes

that the subject treated receives more attention than is possible in a text-book, while the papers are on problems which frequently arise in the practice of otology. They embody the conclusions and practical application of the long experience of an accurate observer.

Space will not permit of a review of each individual paper, but the subjects consist of aural polypi, acute and chronic suppuration of the middle ear and mastoid, ossiculectomy, aural exostoses, deaf mutism, a number of papers on aural vertigo and tinnitus, earache, the relation of diseases of the ear and nose to general medicine, re-education of the deaf, etc.

The papers on aural vertigo are of particular interest, and these alone make the book useful and well worth careful reading. The operation on the vestibule for the relief of vertigo is clearly described and well illustrated, and the results of treatment are given.

A short account of a case of early otosclerosis treated with radium, and the author's remarks on so-called re-education of the deaf, illustrate the practical value of the book.

The book is easily read and full of interest, and contributes largely to the progress of otology. The paucity of description of the morbid anatomy and pathology of diseases of the ear is another indication of the real need of a laboratory for otological research.

E. D. D. DAVIS.

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,
1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Laryngology.—*President*, Andrew Wylie, M.D. *Hon. Secretaries*, Norman Patterson, F.R.C.S., 82 Portland Place, London, W. 1, and W. M. Mollison, Ch.M., 23 Devonshire Place, London, W. 1.

The first Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 5th November, at 5 P.M. Members who are desirous of showing patients or specimens are requested to give notice to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, along with a short précis stating the more important facts.

Section of Otology.—*President*, Dan McKenzie, M.D. *Hon. Secretaries*, T. B. Layton, D.S.O., M.S., 10 Welbeck Street, London, W. 1, and Alexander R. Tweedie, F.R.C.S., 14 Oxford Street, Nottingham.

The first Meeting of the Section will be held on Saturday, 6th November, at 10.30 A.M. Members who are desirous of showing patients or specimens are requested to give notice to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, along with a short précis stating the more important facts.

During the Session 1926-27 the Sections will meet on the following dates:—

Section of Laryngology, on Friday, 5th November, 3rd December, 4th February, 4th March, 1st April, 6th May (*Annual Meeting*), and in June on a date to be arranged.

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Section of Otology, on Saturday, 6th November, 4th December, 5th February, 5th March, 7th May (*Annual Meeting*), and in June on a date to be arranged.

Among the subjects selected for special discussion during the Session, two are of special interest to members of the Sections of Laryngology and Otology.

1. The Treatment of Non-Tuberculous Infection of the Lungs. (*Sections: Medicine, Surgery, Laryngology.*)

2. The Relation of Abnormalities of the Blood-pressure to Diseases of the Ear. (*Sections: Otology, Medicine, Neurology.*)

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THE SEMON LECTURE, 1926.

Dr A. Brown Kelly, M.D., D.Sc., Glasgow, has been invited by the Semon Lecture Board to deliver the Semon Lecture, University of London. The address, entitled "Nervous Affections of the Oesophagus," will be given on Thursday, 2nd December, at 5 P.M., in the Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

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ARTIFICIAL LIGHT TREATMENT OF LARYNGEAL TUBERCULOSIS.

On Friday, 19th November, Dr Strandberg of the Finsen Institute, Copenhagen, will read a paper before the Tuberculosis Society on "The Treatment of Laryngeal Tuberculosis by Heliotherapy and Artificial Light." The Lecture will be delivered at 5 P.M. in the Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole St., London, W. 1.

We understand that the Lecture will be well illustrated and most interesting. The apparatus for Artificial Light Treatment is now in use at several private sanatoria in this country, and the very latest outfit has just been installed at the King Edward Sanatorium, Midhurst.

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POST-GRADUATE COURSE IN OTO-LARYNGOLOGY, BORDEAUX, 1926.

Dr W. S. Thacker-Neville, Darlington, has sent the following short note in reference to the recent post-graduate course conducted by Professor Portmann in Bordeaux during July and August.

Instruction was given in the English language by the Professor himself and covered a period of five weeks. The course was an intensive one, six and a half hours being devoted each day to study. It consisted in the systematic examination of patients, in operations upon the cadaver and living subject, the cinematograph and lantern being utilised in demonstrating many of the steps of the operations. A short series of lectures was given. Bronchoscopy and oesophagoscopy were taught upon dogs.

As Professor Portmann had recently visited Russia, he took the opportunity of demonstrating the work of the Russian specialists on the labyrinth, and he also showed his own work on the saccus endolymphaticus and his method of operating upon it in certain cases of vertigo.

It is proposed to repeat the course next year.

General Notes

"THE RIDDLE OF PERSONALITY"

In 1924 we had occasion to review in these Notes, *The Philosophy of Daily Life* and *Psycho-Analysts Analysed*, both volumes being written by Dr Peter McBride. Since the publication of the last named, his pen has not been idle, as he has again become responsible for a further study in psychology, entitled *The Riddle of Personality* (Mechanism or Mystery?) published by William Heinemann (Medical Books), Ltd.

The author defines personality, provisionally, as the blending of all those qualities, physical and mental, which are united in one individual, its character and development being in all probability the resultant of heredity and environment. He approaches the problem along two pathways and suggests tentatively that psychology and physiological analogy are the best for this purpose. He is forced to the conclusion, however, that in spite of everything the riddle will remain unsolved.

The subject, as Dr McBride has treated it, is full of interest, and is discussed in a series of chapters written in a thoughtful and unprejudiced manner. They deal with the analysis of personality and the difficulties which arise when the attempt is made to do so both on the physical and mental side. The evolution of individual personality and the circumstances which affect it are next discussed. The consideration of personality in animals is one of the most interesting sections in the book and bears the imprint of having been written by one who has had opportunities of studying for himself the mental capabilities of certain of the lower animals. Sufficient facts are brought forward to show that they, too, have very definite personalities.

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BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

Asthma and its Radical Treatment. By James Adam, M.A., M.D., Hon. Surgeon, Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat, Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. London: Henry Kimpton. 1926. Price 12s. 6d.

Cavernous Sinus Thrombo-Phlebitis and Allied Septic and Traumatic Lesions of the Basal Venous Sinuses. By Wells P. Eagleton, M.D., Newark, N.J. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1926.

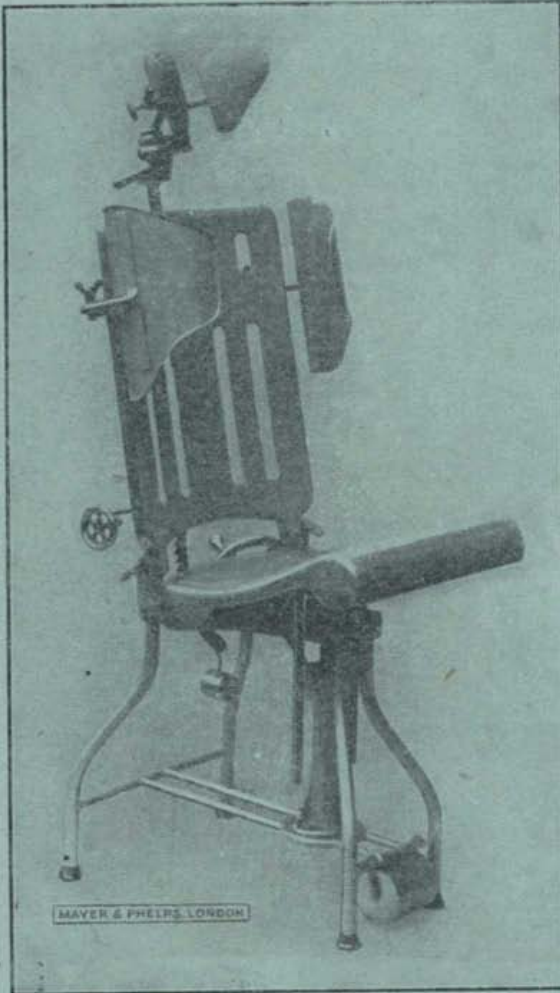
Ear, Nose and Throat Nursing. By James Hardie Neil, D.S.O., M.B. (N.Z.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Auckland Hospital. Second Edition. Auckland: Clark & Matheson, Ltd. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1926. Price 7s. 6d.

Otiatrische Abhandlungen. Festschrift zum 50 Geburtstag Professor Dr G. Alexander, with 48 Figures in the Text and one Plate. Urban & Schwarzenberg, Berlin and Vienna. 1926. Price 18 marks.

Pathology and Treatment of the Inflammatory Diseases of the Nasal Accessory Sinuses. By Professor Dr M. Hajek, translated and edited by Joseph D. Heitger, M.D., Louisville, Kentucky, and French K. Hansel, M.D., St Louis, Missouri. Fifth Edition, completely revised and enlarged, in 2 volumes. London: Henry Kimpton. 1926. Price 75s.

OPERATION CHAIR

Devised by MUSGRAVE WOODMAN, F.R.C.S.
Surgeon to Throat and Ear Department, General Hospital, Birmingham.
Exhibited at the meeting of the Section of Laryngology, Royal Society of
Medicine, 6th November 1925.



The Chair is designed for operative work on the head and neck under an anæsthetic and for general use in nose and throat work. It is sufficiently rigid for operations on the brain, mastoid, and gas-serian ganglion.

The seat can be raised and lowered.

The back can be adjusted to any angle and with the arm supports in position it is impossible for the patient to move while under the anæsthetic.

Mayer & Phelps

CHIRON HOUSE
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London, W. 1

