

# RES MEDICA

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## Book Reviews

### Abstract

Manual of Surgical Anatomy By Bruce, Walmsley and Ross. 1964. E. & S. Livingstone. Price £4 10/-.

Electrocardiography for the Anaesthetist by W. N. Rollason. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 1964. Pp. 124. Price 30/-.

Electrocardiography By R. W. D. Turner. 2nd Edition 1964. E. & S. Livingstone.

An Introduction to Diagnostic Neurology Vol. III. Exercises. E. & S. Livingstone. 1964. Price 12/6.

Textbook Surgery D. A. MacFarlane and L. P. Thomas. Pp. 759. 227 illustrations. 60/- net. 1964. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., Edinburgh and London.

A Nurse's Guide to Anaesthetics, Resuscitation and Intensive Care by W. Norris and D. Campbell. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1964. Pp. 114. Price 20/- . First edition.

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**MANUAL OF SURGICAL ANATOMY.** By Bruce. Walmsley and Ross. 1964. E. & S. Livingstone. Price £4 10/-.

A manual of Surgical Anatomy which sets out to 'be of value to both senior clinical students and to those who are pursuing surgery after graduation' must steer a difficult course. The senior clinical student is concerned with the principles of surgical treatment, although going into anatomical detail occasionally. The graduate requires discussion of anatomy in terms of practical problems. This book lucidly fulfills the requirements of the latter. The surgical relevance of anatomy is carefully and adequately shown. In fact the pre-clinical student, dismayed by the apparent irrelevancy of anatomical teaching, may find it interesting.

The book is well set out, and clearly written. Illustrations are good, with diagrams, drawings and X-rays.

D.L.D.

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY FOR THE ANAESTHETIST,** by W. N. Rollason. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 1964. Pp. 124. Price 30/-.

This small book is, of course, written primarily for anaesthetists, and so has a bias towards the information required in this specialty. However, because there is little space 'padding' the sections on the normal and the abnormal ECG are particularly lucid. The effect of anaesthetic agents on ECG and the use of the electrocardiogram during surgery should be of interest to any surgeon and his junior staff.

Being brief, it can be read very quickly, and should prove a valuable introduction to what is often regarded as a very complex subject. Any book on this topic must have a large number of illustrations and those in this book have obviously been chosen with care to make their point clearly.

R.R.S.H.

# Book

**ELECTRO-CARDIOGRAPHY.** By R. W. D. Turner. 2nd Edition 1964. E. & S. Livingstone.

When the second edition of a book follows the first by only one year, as this one has, there is usually a good reason for it. On reading Dr. Turner's book the reason becomes apparent. Electro-cardiography, a complex clinical tool, is lucidly explained. The book is clearly set out, with ample illustrations. It starts from fundamentals, is not too technical, attempts some rationale of ECG changes in disease, and never loses sight of the clinical implications of the subject. Undoubtedly it will continue to be popular with students and physicians.

D.L.D.

# Reviews

**TEXTBOOK OF SURGERY.** D. A. MacFarlane and L. P. Thomas. Pp. 759. 227 illustrations. 60/- net. 1964. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., Edinburgh and London.

For some time one has wished that there was a surgical equivalent to Davidson's Medicine. In this book that wish may well have come true.

Of medium size, it includes sections on all the common surgical conditions written in simple and straightforward terms. I particularly like the use of simple line drawings instead of a multitude of photographs—these provide the essential information in a clear, readily remembered manner, and are so much easier to understand than complicated pictures with irrelevant detail.

This book is certainly an excellent introduction to surgery and should prove highly acceptable as such. It will not, however, obviate the necessity to refer to the well-known larger works to fill in detail.

However, it should provide a sound framework upon which more extensive information can be built and by providing this framework in a clear and simple manner, should make the subsequent task very much easier. It is an essential book for the undergraduate particularly at the start of clinical studies, but is less likely to be of value to the post-graduate.

R.II.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO DIAGNOSTIC NEUROLOGY.** Vol. III. Exercises. E. & S. Livingstone. 1964. Price 12/6.

When the label 'Exercises' is attached to a book, the average student shudders and looks for less disturbing pursuits. It would be unfortunate, however, if this drab-looking little book were passed by. It demands the participation of the reader, and demonstrates the need for clear thinking. One's ignorance and confusion are pointed out all too clearly. The problems presented are those which face the neurologist at the bed-side. A good little volume!

D.L.D.

**A NURSE'S GUIDE TO ANAESTHETICS, RESUSCITATION AND INTENSIVE CARE,** by W. Norris and D. Campbell. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1964. Pp. 114. Price 20/-. First edition.

This is a very pleasant small book, well written and copiously illustrated. It presents the main outlines of its subjects clearly and without too much needless detail.

While of prime interest to members of the nursing profession, it is worthwhile reading for the medical student. Here he will find the different types of anaesthesia—local, spinal, epidural, and general simply explained, and also the techniques of intensive care and resuscitation. The careful layout and the many photographs and drawings make this a very easy book to read, and, more important, to remember.

R.R.S.II.