

BOOK REVIEWS

"Physical Methods in Plastic Surgery"

By J. P. Reidy, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.)

This book deals primarily with the surgical procedure and suitable conditions for Plastic Surgery, emphasizing the necessity for teamwork and outlining the physiotherapy principles and uses in this field.

It is a surgical technique that has made tremendous progress in development during and after World War II, and therefore comparatively new to physiotherapy.

Mr. Reidy has conveyed the importance of function rather than just movement which at once will appeal to the physiotherapist as being a positive approach.

Another point clearly indicated is the necessity of adopting the technique to the individual requirements of the patient which calls for initiative and the closest co-operation in the team.

This is a book that every physiotherapist should read. It is to be hoped that it is the forerunner of more detailed books in this fascinating subject.

J.B.

"Suspension Therapy in Rehabilitation"

By M. Hollis, M.C.S.P and M. H. S. Roper, M.C.S.P.

The co-authors of this book are to be congratulated for a very comprehensive organisation of a very difficult subject.

Suspension Therapy lends itself to so much modification and adaptation to individual requirements of patients, that it can be as well abused as used.

It is therefore a pleasure to see that a great deal of the first part of the book is devoted to physics and basic principles. It is only a pity that we have not yet devised a terminology for this therapy that could simplify the positioning

of slings, ropes and pulleys in relation to the movements and patients' position.

The second part of the book contains excellent articles on the treatment of specialised conditions that readily lend themselves to Suspension Therapy.

This book has been long needed and Physiotherapists will find it of great value and with the many illustrations and photographs it is a pleasure to read.

We may not all have the same ideas on some of the techniques described, but that is the proof of the adaptability and usefulness of this form of treatment.

J.B.

"Clayton's Electrotherapy and Actinotherapy"

By P. M. Scott, M.C.S.P., T.E.T., T.M.M.G.

This revised third edition is a very good text book for Physiotherapy Students. It is a pleasure to see that the treatment section of the first and second Edition has been omitted and that for the first time the techniques of the various sections in Electrotherapy and Actinotherapy are described.

The book is divided into three parts.

Part I Electrotherapy—Direct and Low Frequency currents Miss Scott has cut down as much as possible on old types of production, modification and principles. Instead, she has stressed principles involved in the construction of Electronic Apparatus which is of more value. The chapter on nerve and muscle stimulation and Electrical Reactions differ in some points to our findings particularly in relation to the evaluation of accommodation.

Part II—Miss Scott is to be congratulated on the inclusion of the chapter "Interference with Radio Reception." This gives a description of controlling devices such as quartz crystals and co-axial line oscillators.

Continued on back cover

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On the whole, it is a very valuable section for students particularly in relation to effects, principles of production and techniques. If anything, the Long Wave Diathermy part is rather overstressed.

Part III—Actinotherapy. This deals with production, effects and techniques of Infra Red radiation, Radiant heat and Ultra Violet Radiation.

There is a great improvement on the construction of the Electronic Discharge lamps as compared with the previous editions. And new for us are the Fluorescent tubes for general ultra-violet irradiation which seem to be a great success.

Our old friend the Carbon Arc Lamp still seems to be favoured.

F.M.H.H.

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* Aanvangsalarisse sal op die goedgekeurde basisse in
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