

REVIEWS.

Anæsthetics. By DUDLEY W. BUXTON, M.D., B.S. Fifth edition.

London: H. K. Lewis, 136, Gower Street, W.C. Price 10s. 6d. net.

When a work by an eminent authority has reached this stage, limited space may be better used by suggesting possible improvements than dilating upon obvious excellencies.

Whilst agreeing that scientific knowledge is essential to the anæsthetist, we think too much stress is laid upon the results of laboratory experiments, which—even when indisputable—are not always safe guides under altered conditions. Certain important subjects, such as shock and after-vomiting, are dealt with in scattered paragraphs—a plan inconvenient for reference, and entailing repetition, whilst leaving us without stated principles.

In regard to operations of special interest to the readers of this journal—the importance of co-operation between surgeon and anæsthetist might be more emphasised, and fuller advice given by which it may be attained. For examples: Hahn's tube and Doyen's gag are merely mentioned without description—nothing is said as to the particular duties of an anæsthetist during a mastoid operation, the advantages and disadvantages of post-nasal plugs, etc., etc. Otherwise these sections are very good, and we are glad that attention is drawn to the risks of deep chloroformisation during tonsillectomy.

Most of the accounts of new methods are satisfactory, but little is said about the untoward effects which may occur, both during and after operation, from the bulk of fluid required for intravenous anæsthesia.

Local and conduction analgesia seem (except as regards their relations with general anæsthesia) more suitably discussed in works on general and special surgery; the accounts, especially of the latter, are far from complete.

It need hardly be added that the printing and illustrations are thoroughly well done.

J. D. Mortimer.

Compendium of the Pharmacopœias and Formularies. By C. J. S.

THOMPSON. Fourth Edition. London: John Bale, Son & Daniellson, Ltd.

The fourth edition of this useful little book is welcome, and has been brought well up to date. It shows at a glance official and unofficial pharmacopœias, and contains numerous practical aids to prescribing and dispensing, including a complete list of incompatibles. It is one of those handy little volumes that form such useful adjuncts to the consulting-room table.

Macleod Yearsley.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Dr. H. S. Birkett, of Montreal, Canada, has been elected Dean of the Medical Faculty of M'Gill University, Montreal.

Owing to the shortages caused by the war, it has been found necessary to reduce the size of the JOURNAL OF LARYNGOL., RHINOL., AND OTOL., for the time being.

