

the problems is appalling. The several essays of the book point up this fact. They present the current knowledge of the various aspects and indicate lines of research for solving the problems. The contributors do not pretend to have all the answers. As one reads the essays he realizes the vastness of knowledge to be acquired, and he is humbled by the relatively small inroads we have made to discover why people grow old. There would be no point of discussing the individual essays. The average clinician might gain something of practical value in the last few essays, but the great value of the book is for those working in the field of geriatrics, particularly the research field, as background material. It must be admitted, however, that even these men and women, forging ahead in limited fields, must delve even deeper into the work of past and present investigators in the pursuance of their research activities.

The format and typography are excellent, and the illustrations are above reproach.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VASCULAR DISORDERS. Edited by Saul S. Samuels, M.D., \$16.00, pp. 621, *The Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1956.*

In recent years more and more attention has been focused upon problems of circulation. A great deal has been learned about the blood vessels and, as the editor states, the study and treatment of diseases of the blood vessels has come into its own as a specialty, and he suggests the term "Angiology" for this specialty containing within it medical and surgical components.

In this book, seventeen experts have contributed one or more chapters and the subject has been approached in a logical fashion. The first four chapters deal with the anatomy and physiology of the peripheral blood vessels and examination of the patient. There is then an excellent chapter on angiography. The various vascular disorders are reviewed in the succeeding chapters and the book ends with a brief discussion of medico-legal aspects. It is a well-published text with many excellent illustrations and is written in a lucid style adapted for easy reading.

In any book of mixed authorship, the pace is apt to be uneven and in this volume at times there seems to be a lack of correlation of the opinions of the various authors, as is exemplified in relation to the indications for sympathectomy in the treatment of intermittent claudication. Certain diagnostic and therapeutic technics appear to be overemphasized while others are given a rather cursory review.

The terminology used in certain chapters is apt to be confusing to some readers as it differs from the

more usual concepts. For example, the term "Juvenile Obliterative Arteritis" is used in one of the chapters as synonymous with "Thromboangiitis Obliterans" whereas later in the book there is an entire chapter on "Thromboangiitis Obliterans." "Endarteritis Obliterans" is the subject of one chapter and has been considered an entity by the author, but there is no uniform agreement among authorities in the field that such an entity exists. In relation to the question of terminology, the book emphasizes the need of more uniform classification of vascular disease on an international basis.

Most vascular problems are discussed but a few, such as "Temporal Arteritis," have not been considered.

In the opinion of the reviewer a book of this type is of value inasmuch as it presents to the reader the opinions of a number of authorities in this field. It is both a stimulating and provocative volume because it serves to point out the many unsettled problems in the field of angiology.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY. Edited by Bernardo A. Houssay, M.D., Juan T. Lewis, M.D., Oscar Orias, M.D., Eduardo Braun-Menendez, M.D., Enrique Hug, M.D., Virgilio G. Foglia, M.D., and Luis F. Leloir, M.D., \$12.00, pp. 1177, 2nd edition, *McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York, 1955.*

As in the first edition of the textbook, *Human Physiology*, the authors have succeeded in presenting the current concepts in physiology in a concise and lucid manner. The material has been brought up to date while the basic organization of the first edition has been retained. The authors, who are all teachers and active investigators, have presented a balanced treatment of the various areas of physiology and have not placed undue emphasis on their own particular fields of interest.

The text is divided into the following sections: "The Internal Environment and the Blood"; "The Circulation"; "Respiration"; "Digestion"; "Metabolism and Nutrition"; "Internal Secretions"; "Reproduction"; "The Formation and Excretion of Urine"; and "The Nervous System." Each section and chapter presents a logical development of the evidence in support of currently accepted views. Where the actual experiments or data are not given in the text, adequate references are provided at the end of the individual chapter. Thus the inquiring student may examine the data upon which many of the fundamental concepts are based.

While most subjects are treated quite adequately, as would be expected the sections dealing with the internal secretions and with the regulation of carbohydrate metabolism are especially well presented. However, the chap-