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# Book Reviews

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**NEUROLOGICAL NURSING – A Practical Guide** by John Marshall, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lon), F.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.P.M., and Jean Mair, S.R.N.

THIS BOOK, as its title indicates, is written as a guide to aid nurses charged with the management of neurological and neurosurgical patients. It is not a textbook on signs and symptoms of disease but focuses on the practical problems that a nurse is likely to be faced with in the management of these patients. However, the authors give a sound basis for the rationale so that nurses can appreciate their role better in this field of nursing.

The handbook is concise and well illustrated. Emphasis is also placed on the psychological, theoretical and social aspects of management. The authors do well to sub-divide the category of patients managed in accordance with the degree of nursing attention they require. Thus, they have three categories of patients, namely, those who are acutely ill, those admitted for a specific disability but are otherwise well, and those admitted for just observation and investigations.

The chapter on anatomy and physiology may be inadequate as the authors presuppose the reader to have prior knowledge of them. However, they are presented in the light of their application to practical problems. Practical hints on lumbar punctures, cisternal punctures and ventricular punctures are also given. The role of the physical therapist in the management of these patients is amply illustrated and emphasised.

The two closing chapters, although brief, are well conceived. They deal with the psychological and social aspects of a neurological patient which should be of the utmost importance to anyone dealing with such patients.

This book serves to emphasise the principles underlying the various treatments instituted in a neurological and neurosurgical center, comprehension of which it makes the work of a nurse more meaningful and rewarding. We have no hesitation in recommending this book to all hospitals charged with the care of patients with head injury or neurological disorders.

SISTER THERESA CHOONG  
DR. N. ARUMUGASAMY.

## “CUTANEOUS SENSATION”

by David Sinclair

Oxford University Press, London; 1st edition, 1967  
Pages, 306 · Illustrations, 30; 63 s net

ALTHOUGH there has been voluminous studies of the cutaneous sensation, the general picture becomes so complicated and controversial that it requires an authority in this field to evaluate the present status and future potentialities of the various theories and their clinical implications. Unfortunately, there has, until now, been no text devoted exclusively to a review of the problems of skin sensation.

Written primarily for clinicians who wish to obtain a general survey of the skin sensation, this book, nevertheless, gives a good deal of the physiological picture of cutaneous investigations. The content of this book includes the histological background of the major existing theories on cutaneous sensation, the methods of investigation, the sensory apparatus involved, the sensations themselves, and the trends of current research. The fluent style of writing and the continuity in introducing new topics make this book interesting to read. In addition, the summary at the end of each chapter enables one to grasp the main theme with minimum effort.

This book is recommended not only to the clinicians but to the research workers who should also find it useful in placing their own studies in perspective.

T.T. LOH

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE

by Evelyn Pearce

2nd Edition Published by Faber and Faber

24 Russell Square London Pp 286 Price 25s net.

THIS BOOK should be a most welcome addition to the list of text books for a student nurse. It is clear and comprehensive, and deals with the total environment in a very intelligent manner. There is a great need to make the nurse appreciate the importance of the numerous interacting forces in the occurrence and spread of disease and its prevention and this book has achieved this admirably well.

The arrangement of the contents has been done with a great deal of care, and appears to be better than most text books of this type. The author has been able to cover almost every aspect of Public Health.

As this book is written for nurses, there is no attempt to go too much into detail. It is, therefore, very readable and may be also of value to school teachers and other educators.

L.S. SODHY