

The practical management of tuberculosis in children has so far presented a confused and uncertain picture and this has probably arisen from an acceptance of the pattern of the disease as it has been so fully studied and understood in adults. It is the authors' contention that, apart from those rare instances of the adult type of the disease, pulmonary tuberculosis in childhood presents an entirely different clinical picture. Data are provided, for example, which demonstrate that the extent of the radiological shadows in primary disease is often of very little prognostic significance.

The various manifestations of the disease in childhood and adolescence are considered from the aspect of incidence, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment in such a way that the publication can be used as a text-book.

An original picture of the possible connections between primary tuberculosis and the adult type of disease is outlined in a chapter on pathogenesis. Although some of these views may be found controversial, they should certainly stimulate further thought and research on this important subject which, for so long, has been dominated by theories formulated in the early years of the present century.

As Dr. Sheldon states in his Foreword, High Wood Hospital—the largest hospital for pulmonary tuberculosis in children in the country—was an ideal field for observation. In addition to the prolonged period of residential treatment, over 90 per cent of the cases were followed up for many years. No other centre could have supplied so much information and particularly is this the case in the section dealing with chronic pulmonary tuberculosis (the adult type of the disease)—a section described by Dr. Sheldon as unique.

The authors' findings demonstrate that our methods of dealing with the disease in children have become unsatisfactory and call for an overhaul of both clinical and administrative arrangements.

The book will also be of great value in those parts of the world where the main battle against tuberculosis has still to be fought, as the fundamental pattern of tuberculosis shows striking similarities although its tempo may vary from country to country.

Can be obtained, price 30s. or \$5 from N.A.P.T., Tavistock House, North, London, W.C.1, 65, Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2, or 28, Bedford Street, Belfast.

### N.H.S.R. Challenge Cup. National Competition this Year.

A NATIONAL COMPETITION is being organised this year for the Minister of Health's Silver Challenge Cup for the most efficient Mobile First Aid Unit in the National Hospital Service Reserve. Last year, when the competition started, it was confined to the four Metropolitan Hospital Regions. The holders are the Enfield Hospital Group Team.

It is expected that between 200 and 300 teams will take part in the qualifying rounds in the 14 Hospital Regions in England and Wales. The winner of each regional contest will come to London on Saturday, 3rd July, for the final round on Horse Guard's Parade.

Teams are already in training for the preliminary heats. A year ago only 23 of these mobile teams had been formed throughout the country. Now over 120 teams are in being and it is expected that another 180 will be formed in time to take part in this national contest.

Each mobile first aid unit is manned by a doctor, trained nurse and eight nursing auxiliaries. Transport consists of two cars for the team and a van for first-aid equipment.

The list of winning Regional teams is expected to be available by mid-June. Judges for the Finals will be appointed by the Ministry of Health.

**Footnote.**—The purpose of the N.H.S.R. is to recruit, train and organise in peacetime a Reserve of men and women

qualified in first aid and home nursing, who would in time of war not only provide the additional staff required for the greatly expanded hospital service, but would also man some 2,000 Mobile First Aid Units and some 800 static first-aid posts at hospitals.

Its peacetime target is 100,000 and by the end of last year nearly 35,000 members had been recruited.

### Study Guide for Clinical Nursing.\*

Prepared under the direction of

EMILY C. CARDEW, R.N., M.S.

(Acting Director, University of Illinois School of Nursing, Chicago.)

THIS BRILLIANT and comprehensive Study Guide is the most fascinating text-book of clinical nursing that I have read for many years. It is really five complete volumes in one; each volume written by a Nurse Specialist attached to a University School of Nursing in the U.S.A., e.g., MARTHA M. BROWN, R.N., M.A., contributes the Section in Psychiatry;

LILIAN SHOLTIS BRUNNER, R.N., M.S., the Section in Surgery; JANE DECLUE, R.N., B.S., the Section in Obstetrics; JANE TAYLOR TORRANCE, R.N., B.S., M.E.D., the Section in Medicine; and lastly GLADYS WILKINS, R.N., M.A., contributes the Section in Pediatrics.

The arrangement of the text in this Study Guide is absolutely unique. Any student following closely the instructions given, first with reference to the necessary revision; secondly by answering the prepared sets of questions (with or without the help of other text-books); and finally by carefully reading the Case Study itself, could not fail to be an eager and stimulated member of the Discussion class which follows.

The amount of true knowledge one must acquire, simply by reading up one Study Case is absolutely staggering! alas, how quickly one forgets! But happily—with such a Guide—how quickly one remembers also.

Whilst reading the book for review purposes, one actually feels conscious of being taken by the hand and led gently, but firmly, through a well-prepared revision into the familiar surroundings of the patient, and of knowing exactly the symptoms and condition; the treatment and the nursing care which will be prescribed for the patient. The discussion class which is then to follow is of the greatest help to student nurses and can only result in a burning thirst for knowledge and of happiness in their studies.

Such a voluminous and exact Guide will of necessity have to be kept thoroughly up-to-date, and need constant revision especially in those Sections dealing with classes of drugs and chemo-therapy, which are so meticulously prepared and presented. The Study Guide must be taken "in large doses" now—at this present moment, whilst the material is so up-to-date, vivid and stimulating.

Teachers of nurses must be eternally grateful to the gifted authors who have prepared so conscientiously this literary feast in such generous proportions for them and especially for those senior students who are preparing themselves for their final State examinations.

The only draw-back to this excellent volume is its price. Once having decided to lay out the capital, one must be rewarded by an inner glow of satisfaction, happy anticipation and of accomplishment. To be the proud possessor of such a literary and professional "pearl" is surely a great achievement? There is no doubt but that the Study Guide will rank pre-eminently among the Nurses Text-books of the decade.

G. M. H.

\* Price 45/-. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, London, Montreal.

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