

The reader is warned that ultra violet light treatment must be used with caution in tuberculosis, although it is advisable in cases where the bones, joints, glands or peritoneum are involved.

The chapter on psychotherapy contains much practical information, and the author thinks that history taking is most important and should be a biography before starting treatment.

The final chapter describes certain medical operations such as blood transfusion, administration of rectal and intraperitoneal saline, paracentesis, venesection, cupping, etc.

The book is well produced and is full of helpful information and hints.

*Histoire des Idées sur la Guérison des Cavernes depuis Laënnec.* By ANTONIA CARLET, Ancienne Externe des Hôpitaux de Paris. Paris: Amédée Legrand, 1937. Pp. 74.

In this book the history of the theories as to the healing of cavities is traced from the original conception of fibrosing contraction to the more recent one of relief of tension.

The author points out that a cavity communicating with an open bronchus has a mean atmospheric pressure and is subject to the influence of the flow of air during inspiration and expiration. If the bronchus is blocked the air in the cavity will be absorbed so that it closes, but may re-open if the bronchus becomes patent again. Closure of the cavity is therefore dependent upon atelectasis.

The cavity has assumed a place of such importance in tuberculosis that this little volume will be read with great interest by all those who follow the modern views on the subject.

*The Handbook of Tuberculosis Schemes for Great Britain and Ireland.*

The ninth edition of this valuable little volume has just appeared. It is in effect a Tuberculosis Directory which is produced by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, and can be obtained from their offices in Tavistock House North, London, W.C. 1, for five shillings.

The present edition has much additional data, including details regarding the days of the week and the hours during which dispensaries are open, X-ray facilities at hospitals and dispensaries, the addresses of all care committees, and the total tuberculosis death rate for each London Metropolitan Borough.

A brief note of each county and county borough in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, the Irish Free State, Isle of Man and Channel Islands is given, and in this will be found the death rates from tuberculosis and from all causes, the population and industries of the country and the schemes adopted as regards tuberculosis, with the names of the chief administrative officer and tuberculosis officer.

Then follows a list of residential institutions with the number of beds and a note as to the type of patient—medical, surgical, early, advanced, etc.—eligible, and the nature of the institution, whether private, voluntary or under local authorities.

In the appendices statistics of tuberculosis death rates will be found and