

Book Reviews

A COMPANION TO ENT

Peter Ellis (Gabrielle Nunn, Marcia Thorburn, illustrations & cartoons).
Price £3.50.

Peter Ellis has written a short and easily readable ENT textbook for medical students and GPs which is highly recommended.

Despite the slimness of this volume the content is comprehensive, discussing all the most commonly seen ENT conditions. The text explains simply the underlying pathology of each disease making it easy to understand and remember, so giving the reader a good grasp of the subject. Intentionally, there are no long indigestible lists of data here. The book holds one's attention and is amusingly written.

The diagrams and illustrations are clear and relevant and are punctuated by light-hearted cartoons acting as an *aide-mémoire*.

This book evolved from a lecture course prepared for ENT medical students at Cambridge and is ideally suited for this readership or for GP trainees. Certainly, it is far more than a mere introduction to the subject, but those looking for very specific management regimens will be disappointed. The assumption is made that knowledge of the pathological processes will lead us logically to the appropriate management.

Having read this book, our medical students have displayed an impressive grasp of the speciality, which is in itself a strong recommendation. Those involved in teaching ENT medical students should direct them to Peter Ellis' Companion to ENT
G. A. J. Morrison.

The book may only be purchased from the author direct.
Mr Peter Ellis, The Old Vicarage, Lode, Cambridge CB5 9EW, UK.

HALS-NASEN- OHRENHEILKUNDE FÜR MEDICIZINSTUDENTEN

H. G. Boenninghaus.
Springer-Verlag: Berlin 7 Aufl, 1990.
ISBN 0-387-51658-1.
Price DM34.80. Pp 517. Figs 161.

This is a remarkable little book. As a students' introduction to otolaryngology it has few peers, achieving to my mind an ideal balance between practical clinical matters and the scientific basis of the modern speciality. In particular I thought that in the theoretical background to the audio-

vestibular section a complicated field was succinctly and clearly summarised, not an easy task. The whole of the discipline is thoroughly covered in a style that is readily accessible and consistent throughout the whole book. The breadth of coverage of the subject indeed leads me to conclude that the importance of our speciality in the undergraduate curriculum is more readily acknowledged in Germany than in the United Kingdom. The line drawings are of high quality, as is the series of 72 colour plates in the appendix. There is a useful self-assessment multiple choice questionnaire to which much thought has obviously been applied by the author. I have only two criticisms. There is a sad lack of X-ray and CT images, an omission I assume to be due to considerations of cost, and I found the historical introduction to be curiously xenophobic, the only non-Teuton to have been deemed to have made any contribution to the speciality being Garcia with his mirror. I would nevertheless highly recommend this book and would welcome an English edition.
R. T. Ramsden.

OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD AND NECK SURGERY UPDATE II

Charles W. Cummings, John M. Fredrickson, Lee A. Harker, Charles J. Krause, David E. Schuller.
Mosby Year Book: St. Louis
ISBN 0-8016-0190-8. Price £59.50.

The original four volumes of this multi author North American tome was printed in 1987. The aim of this second Update is to highlight areas within the speciality which have advanced rapidly in the intervening years or were overlooked in the initial texts. It is not surprising then to find amongst the 300 or so pages topics as diverse as Medical Management of the Aging Skin and Interventional Neuro-radiology. The remit of the American Otolaryngologist is broader than his British counterpart and the choice of Update subjects reflects this.

The book is set out in three units. The first four papers emphasize the benefits of special interest clinics and cover technical developments in the diagnosis of voice disorders, the place of moving platform posturography in vestibular disorders and techniques of intracranial blood flow measurement. I found the 30 pages covering manofloro-