

*Cancer of the Breast and its Treatment.* By Prof. W. Sampson Handley. Second edition. Pp. xvii + 411. (London: Published for the Middlesex Hospital Press by J. Murray, 1922.) 30s. net.

IT is now more than six years since the exhaustion of the first edition of this book, in which Sampson Handley set out to place the operative treatment of cancer of the breast on a more rational basis by a closer study of the pathology of the disease. His main conclusions were: (1) that carcinoma spreads centrifugally by permeation of the lymphatic plexuses; (2) that reparative processes inadequate for cure are a normal part of the cancer process; (3) that inflammation and fibrous tissue formation are the principal of these defensive processes; (4) that invasion of the serous cavities is an event of critical importance in the process of dissemination; (5) that the embolic theory is only true for exceptional cases. The author instances much detailed evidence in support of these views, which have won widespread, though not universal, acceptance.

The present edition contains new chapters on radiological treatment, recurrence, Paget's disease of the nipple, lymphangioplasty, and injury as a causative factor in carcinoma. The book is well arranged and excellently illustrated.

*A Handbook of Some South Indian Grasses.* By Rai Bahadar K. Ranga Achariyar. Assisted by C. Tadulinga Mudaliyar. Pp. vi + 318 (Calcutta: Butterworth and Co., Ltd.; London: Constable and Co., Ltd., 1921.) 4 R. 8 As.

THIS book is intended to serve as a guide to the study of the grasses of the plains of South India for the use of officers of the Agricultural and Forest Departments and others interested in grasses. To remedy scarcity of fodder, foreign grasses and fodder plants have been imported, but so far none have been established on a large scale. The same amount of attention bestowed on indigenous grasses would have yielded better results. About one hundred grasses of wide distribution in the South Indian plains are described in this volume. The arrangement adopted is that of the "Flora of British India." Keys for the identification of genera and species are given, and good descriptions of each species are accompanied with figures of the whole plant and of the spikelet and details of the flower. The descriptions are preceded by a useful general account of the vegetative organs and flowers, and the histology of the stem and leaf. The figures, though not always quite sharp, are sufficiently clear to be a great help towards the identification of a given specimen. The handbook should prove of good service in South India.

*The World About Us: A Study in Geographical Environment.* By O. J. R. Howarth. Pp. 94. (London: Oxford University Press, 1922.) 2s. 6d. net.

MR. HOWARTH has written a small book on a most important subject. Its size is the only fault we have to find with this excellent volume, although it is a pity that a title more descriptive of the content was not chosen. Enthusiasm for the geographical point of view too often leads to exaggerated statements of the influence of environment on human activities and is prone to encourage generalisations which not infrequently ignore the facts. Mr. Howarth is too

careful a geographer to fall into these bad ways. He traces the nature of geographical influences, and in selected cases tries to estimate the forces of the factors involved. Chapters on the factors of environment are followed by others on distribution, migration, and transport. Particularly suggestive are the chapters on geographical environment and political states, and the local application of environmental study. The latter expounds the idea of regional survey in its value as a co-ordinating study of the things and peoples around us. Mr. Howarth's thoughtful and lucidly written volume should help geography to find its proper place in educational schemes. It deserves to be read widely.

*Eyes and Spectacles.* By Dr. M. von Rohr. Rendered into English by Dr. A. Harold Levy. Authorised translation. Pp. vi + 130 + xxii. (London: Hatton Press, Ltd., n.d.) 6s. net.

WE believe that this little book by Dr. Moritz von Rohr will prove as helpful to other English readers as it has been to the translator. Not only should it be read by those who prescribe and those who make lenses, but also by those who have to teach medical students or others the elementary principles on which the science of ophthalmology is based. The first part of the book deals with the eye itself, and also perspective as a form of perception by means of which the arrangement in space of the outer world becomes manifest to the observer. The most important section of the book deals with spectacles, and stress is laid on the two fundamental problems of increased clearness of vision and the alteration of direction of the object perceived. The final portion of the volume deals with spectacle frames. The translation, which has had the advantage of the author's revision, appears to have been carried out in an efficient manner.

*The Link between the Practitioner and the Laboratory: A Guide to the Practitioner in his Relations with the Pathological Laboratory.* By C. Fletcher and H. McLean. Pp. 91. (London: H. K. Lewis and Co., Ltd., 1920.) 4s. 6d. net.

THIS little book is for the guidance of the medical practitioner when he is obtaining the assistance of the laboratory. It enumerates clinical conditions with the appropriate pathological investigations, and gives clear instructions for the collection and transmission of the necessary material; there is also a brief résumé of vaccine and serum therapy. Attention to the details given will certainly assist the practitioner in supplying to the pathologist the right material in the right way.

*Émile Coué: The Man and his Work.* By Hugh MacNaughten. Pp. xi + 52. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1922.) 2s. net.

AN ambitious title appears on this book, which is really an enthusiastic appreciation of a doctor from whom the writer has received benefit. It records vividly scenes at Nancy, Eton, and London when Coué gave demonstrations of his methods. The writer gives a very charming impression of Coué as a man. The book is not, however, nor does it purport to be, a scientific treatise on Coué's theories of suggestion.