

a knowledge of calculus, potential theory and integral equations, but it is by no means easy reading, even for those possessing this knowledge, owing to the abstract nature of the reasoning employed. It is well printed and commendably free from misprints, and will prove indispensable to all proposing to make a study of this branch of hydrodynamics.

*Yuman Tribes of the Gila River.* By Leslie Spier. (The University of Chicago Publications in Anthropology: Ethnological Series.) Pp. xviii + 433 + 15 plates. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press; London: Cambridge University Press, 1933.) 19s. net.

THIS study of the Yuman tribes of the Gila River, Arizona, is based upon field-work sponsored by Yale University and the University of Chicago. It is concerned primarily with the Maricopa, although the community since the beginning of the nineteenth century has been composite, the reason being that it has been Maricopa in speech and organisation since its formation. Little of ancient custom remains. The old outlook persists best in everyday behaviour, mannerisms, personal relations and speech. Few are Christians. The sib system, and its attendant naming habits, is the most flourishing part of the old thought system. Dr. Spier by his investigation makes a valuable addition to the excellent series of studies of the Indians of California and the adjacent south-west, for which the University of California has made itself responsible.

*The Physician's Art: an Attempt to Expand John Locke's "Fragment De Arte Medica".* By A. G. Gibson. Pp. vi + 237. (Oxford: Clarendon Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1933.) 7s. 6d. net.

DR. A. G. GIBSON modestly describes his book as an attempt to expand John Locke's fragment "De Arte Medica"—the opening of what was to be an essay on the philosophy of medicine, but which was left uncompleted. Locke's words may have inspired the task, but Dr. Gibson's views on the fundamentals of medical art are in no way an expansion of Locke's ideas; they are the reflections based not only on a professional life rich in experience in the arts of diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, but also on a real understanding of medical ideals and ethics. Few doctors can be so perfect in their art that they have no lesson to learn from this book, and to the practitioner with most of his experience before him it will be of greater value than a stock of textbooks and scientific articles.

*The Spread of Tumours in the Human Body.* By Dr. Rupert A. Willis. (Monographs of the Baker Institute of Medical Research, No. 2.) Pp. x + 540 + 48 plates. (London: J. and A. Churchill, 1934.) 25s.

To the clinician, the secondary tumour is of significance only in its prognostic finality; for the

pathologist, the importance of the primary relegates the metastatic growth to the background. Yet much may be learnt about malignant tumours from a study of their paths in spreading and the nature of the tissues in which they prefer to form secondary growths. Extensive study of records, critical consideration of theories, and the most painstaking and minute post-mortem examinations, are the essentials in such research work; by adherence to them, Dr. Willis has well surveyed a neglected corner of the field of morbid processes. His book, if of limited interest to the physician and surgeon, is of primary importance to the pathologist, and an essential addition to the cancer research worker's library.

*Geographical Regions of France.* By Prof. Emmanuel de Martonne. Translated from the latest edition by H. C. Brentnall. Pp. xi + 224. (London: William Heinemann, Ltd., 1933.) 7s. 6d.

PROF. DE MARTONNE'S work, which has had more than one edition in the original French, does not cover the whole of France, but most of the important areas find a place and no essential feature of the framework of French geography seems to be omitted. The book is the outcome of a course of lectures first delivered in the United States, and aims at relating the physical facts with the human interests. The outstanding physical features are clearly explained and the book succeeds in giving a rational explanation of the contrasts in scenery exhibited by different parts of France. It can be recommended for lucidity of exposition and simplicity of treatment.

*Einführung in die theoretische Physik.* By Prof. Dr. Clemens Schäfer. In 3 Bänden. Band 3, Teil 1: *Elektrodynamik und Optik.* Pp. viii + 918. (Berlin und Leipzig: Walter de Gruyter und Co., 1932.) 37.50 gold marks.

THIS book contains a very complete account of electricity and magnetism in all their theoretical aspects, from the simple electrostatic field through crystal optics to the theory of relativity. The treatment is clear, but it is quite definitely designed to appeal to the mathematician rather than to the experimental physicist. The standard attains that of a postgraduate course, but the book lacks bibliographical details which one normally expects to find in a work of such importance.

*Struktur der Materie: Vier Vorträge.* Von Prof. P. Debye. Pp. iv + 50. (Leipzig: S. Hirzel, 1933.) 3 gold marks.

IN this little booklet of fifty pages, Debye publishes four stimulating talks on the scattering of X-rays by molecules, the electrical structure of matter, the molecular structure of liquids—including a fascinating account of the Brillouin derivation of the ratio of the velocity of sound to the velocity of light—and on the nature of solutions of electrolytes.