The book represents a large amount of work, not merely on account of its actual contents but also on account of the number of original papers which had to be consulted. This is evidenced by the copious references at the end of each chapter. The authors are to be congratulated on the success with which they have accomplished their task.

Artificial Limbs and Amputation Stumps: A Practical Handbook. By E. Muirhead Little. Pp. vii+319. (London: H. K. Lewis and Co., Ltd., 1922.) 18*s.* net.

No surgeon who may be called upon to amputate a limb can afford to disregard the problem of fitting a prosthetic appliance to the resulting stump. Mr. Muirhead Little has recorded his conclusions, based on a wide experience in fitting artificial limbs, and his book will undoubtedly take its place as a standard work of reference on the subject in English surgical literature.

The chapter on amputation stumps is of great importance; in it the author describes the characteristics of a good stump, the conditions which prevent or delay the fitting of prostheses, and the best methods of dealing with such conditions. The actual descriptions of artificial limbs are mainly those of the British Official Prostheses, *i.e.* appliances supplied by the Ministry of Pensions. Arms are classified according to the work required to be done, and again according to the amputation region. Lower limbs are grouped corresponding to the site and type of amputation. The book is very well illustrated and is complete in its attention to details outside the actual fitting of the limb, *e.g.* the preservation and repair of the artificial leg, and the re-education of the patient. The appendix contains specifications of artificial limbs, and directions for making certalmid sockets and for fitting the light metal leg.

Industrial Nitrogen: The Principles and Methods of Nitrogen Fixation and the Industrial Applications of Nitrogen Products in the Manufacture of Explosives, Fertilizers, Dyes, etc. By P. H. S. Kempton. (Pitman's Technical Primer Series.) Pp. xii+104. (London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1922.) 2*s.* 6*d.* net.

MR. KEMPTON has provided a very brief but readable account of an important industry which has grown up within the last ten years. The descriptions of the processes are necessarily very sketchy, but enough information is given to enable one to form a reasonably accurate picture of the present state of affairs—one which, it may be mentioned, is by no means to the credit of this country. Several minor inaccuracies were noted. The yields of the various arc furnaces given on p. 15 are not the real figures. The Claude process is not the only one largely used for the manufacture of nitrogen (p. 32). Copper formate, not chloride, is used for the purification of hydrogen in the Haber process (p. 45). "Rev. A. Milner, 1871" should be "Rev. I. Milner, 1788" (p. 64). The "Ostwald-Barton system" of ammonia oxidation (p. 67) is quite adequately described by the first of the two names, and the statement that in it "a catalyst of secret composition is used instead of platinum," although it appears to have been spread abroad for the information of the credulous, is wholly without foundation.

The Beloved Ego: Foundations of the New Study of the Psyche. By Dr. W. Stekel. Authorised Translation by Rosalie Gabler. Pp. xiv+237. (London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co., Ltd., 1921.) 6*s.* 6*d.* net.

DIFFERENT aspects of life, such as the fight of the sexes, psychic opium, the fear of joy, the unlucky dog, to select but a few, are some of the topics of the series of essays which constitute this book. Each chapter discusses special symptoms which, in particular cases, reveal that the personality has been thrown out of perspective, and the proffered solution is that love of the self is the fundamental cause of the disturbance. Love at first sight is love of the self as reflected in another, and even the person who is always disproportionately unlucky is so, because his self-love demands that he must be unique in some one direction. The author admits his indebtedness to the work of Freud, and regards it as a step towards a new psychotherapy, but believes that sexuality has been overemphasised by Freud's followers. He aims at showing the part played by the self. The essays are in popular form and are certainly interesting and embody much sound advice.

A Textbook of Organic Chemistry. By Prof. J. S. Chamberlain. Pp. xliii+959. (London: G. Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1922.) 16*s.* net.

PROF. CHAMBERLAIN'S textbook follows the usual lines. Only important compounds are described, and attention is directed to the general relationships between groups of compounds. The style is clear and the matter well arranged, so that students beginning the serious study of organic chemistry should find the book of value, especially if supplemented by lectures, as the author intended. The printing and paper are good. From the large number of elementary textbooks on organic chemistry which have appeared recently one might be led to infer that some new methods of teaching the subject had been evolved. This does not seem to be the case.

(1) *Industrial Motor Control: Direct Current.* By A. T. Dover. (Pitman's Technical Primer Series.) Pp. xi+116. (London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1922.) 2*s.* 6*d.* net.

(2) *Switching and Switchgear.* By H. E. Poole. (Pitman's Technical Primer Series.) Pp. ix+118. (London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1922.) 2*s.* 6*d.* net.

(3) *The Testing of Transformers and Alternating Current Machines.* By Dr. C. F. Smith. (Pitman's Technical Primer Series.) Pp. xi+91. (London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1922.) 2*s.* 6*d.* net.

(1) MR. DOVER'S object in his book is to discuss the principles involved in the starting and speed control of direct current motors. The principles are applied subsequently to typical control apparatus. The diagrams are well drawn and the descriptions are clear.

(2) The elementary considerations which have to be taken into account when designing apparatus for the switch-control of electric circuits are well described in Mr. Poole's book. It will form a useful introduction to more technical treatises.

(3) Dr. Smith's book will prove useful to students, and to engineers who want to revise their knowledge.