

*Penrose's Annual: the Process Year Book and Review of the Graphic Arts.* Edited by Wm. Gamble. Vol. 30. Pp. xvi+160+68+59 plates. (London: Percy Lund, Humphries and Co., Ltd., 1928.) 8s. net.

THE business of Penrose and Co., with which this *Annual* has been associated from its commencement, has been acquired by the firm of Hunters, Ltd., and will henceforth be known as Hunter-Penrose, Ltd. Mr. Wm. Gamble retires from the business, but will continue to edit the *Annual*, so doubtless its character will be fully maintained. The present volume is on the same lines as those that have preceded it.

The editor in his introductory remarks pleads for a more kindly attitude toward the inventor, for a greater receptiveness of new ideas, and for a bolder enterprise. He finds little that is new to record, but a general if slow progress along the lines that have been indicated in previous years. Perhaps the most striking item is the use of chromium plating for printing surfaces. Chromium is harder than steel, indeed a hardened steel graver will not cut its surface, and it can scarcely be scratched by any form of mechanical abrasion. After 240,000 impressions had been taken, there was no visible deterioration in the prints or in the plate. Another plate was still in use after a run of five million printings.

Mr. Chas. T. Jacobi gives the seventh of his series of descriptions of private presses—The Golden Cockerel Press, which was projected in 1920, and issued its first volume in the following year. Specimens are given. Mr. Paulson Townsend contributes a well-illustrated article on the history of woodcuts and wood engraving. Mr. S. H. Horgan deals with the beginnings of half-tone, and gives a reproduction in facsimile of the first published example in the *New York Daily Graphic* of Mar. 4, 1880. There are many other articles, and a large number of illustrations that show the high standard of present-day process work.

*The Principles of Pathology.* By Dr. Charles Powell White. (Publications of the University of Manchester: Medical Series, No. 17.) Pp. x+279. (Manchester: At the University Press; London: Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd., 1927.) 15s. net.

PATHOLOGY is a subject to which considerably more attention is paid in the medical curriculum than was the case fifteen years ago. The student, however, still tends to regard it as static rather than dynamic, and this error is not sufficiently corrected in books and in the post-mortem room. Dr. Powell White's "Principles of Pathology" is not a text-book devoted to the description of macroscopic and microscopic appearances; the subject is approached from the biological aspect, and causes and processes are considered rather than nature and appearances. A comparatively small volume, it must be somewhat dogmatic in style, and though this is no disadvantage to the student, it renders the author's views more open to criticism. The term 'diathesis,' which is now rarely used in

clinical medicine, is employed to group a number of conditions ranging from hæmophilia to neurasthenia and the tendency to bed-sore formation in paralysed patients. Psycho-pathology is so unsettled that the application of this term to abnormal mental states simply obscures them further; and it seems scarcely advisable to include bed-sore formation, which is as readily explicable as is the severance of the skin by a knife.

Dr. Powell White, however, does not dogmatise in the attitude of a final authority. He writes rather to attract attention and to stimulate thought, and in this his book should be successful. It will certainly assist the student to regard pathology, not as the product of laboratory and microscope, but as a biological science.

*The Infancy of Medicine: an Enquiry into the Influence of Folk-Lore upon the Evolution of Scientific Medicine.* By Dr. Dan M'Kenzie. Pp. xiv+421. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1927.) 15s. net.

THIS work, which emanates from a prominent London otologist with whom the study of folk-lore plays the part of the violin of Ingres, constitutes an attempt to show in what manner and to what extent primitive thought has influenced the evolution of the science and art of medicine. The work, as we learn from the preface, is intended not only for the small section of the medical public interested in medical history, but also for all practitioners of medicine, in that it seeks to explain the more obscure workings of the partially educated lay mind in civilised communities as well as in the savage and semi-civilised races of the world.

The book is divided into two parts. The first consists of three chapters, devoted respectively to the evolution of the medical man, primitive pathology, and primitive treatment; while the second part, which forms the bulk of the work, contains fourteen chapters dealing with the evolution of animal and botanical remedies, astrology in medicine, the evolution of balneology, primitive surgery, and midwifery, various superstitions and practices connected with menstruation, impregnation, and pregnancy, circumcision and other mutilations. An extensive bibliography for each chapter is appended. The work, which shows a characteristic blend of scholarship and humour, will appeal alike to the medical man and the anthropologist.

*General Chemistry: Theoretical and Descriptive.* By Prof. Thomas P. M'Cutcheon and Prof. Harry Seltz. Pp. x+415. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1927.) 16s. net.

"THIS book has been designed for use in a course of General Chemistry based on a series of illustrated lectures and quiz hours, and for a text of reference for the student performing the laboratory work, which usually accompanies such a course." It has probably been of value for this purpose, but it cannot be commended for independent reading, and it is unlikely that it will find any extensive field of usefulness where 'quiz hours' are not the normal method of 'cramming.'