BOOK NOTICES

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Martindale and Westcott's Extra Pharmacopoeia is so well known that no words of recommendation are necessary. It is an indispensable book to the physician, and we hold it to be above criticism.

Since the publication of the first vol. of the 19th edition in 1928, new editions of official pharmacopoeias have appeared in Italy (1929), Belgium and Spain (1930). These, and the new edition of the B.P. (1932), have undergone abstraction for the present volume. A useful synopsis of the principal additions and changes in the B.P. (1932) is appended as well as the handy tables of weights and measures, thermometric equivalents and atomic weights. The main part of the work is arranged alphabetically from "acacia green" to "zinc." There is also a copious list of supplementary drugs, sections on vaccines and antitoxins, on organo-therapy, a schedule of poisons, a summary of the Dangerous Drugs Acts and a therapeutic index of diseases.

It is interesting to note that this is the jubilee year of publication, the first volume by W. Martindale and Dr. Wynn Westcott having appeared in 1883. After Mr. Martindale's death in 1902, his son, Mr. W. Harrison Martindale, collaborated with Dr. Wynn Westcott till the latter's death in 1925. Since that date he has shouldered the bulk of the work. He deserves the thanks and congratulations not only of his own profession but also of all medical men.

OBITUARY

ANDREW FREELAND FERGUS, LL.D., F.R.S.E.

The passing of Andrew Freeland Fergus on October 24 last, leaves a gap in the friendships of the older generation of medical men, more especially in Glasgow and the West of Scotland. It surely is an unusual circumstance that a man should be a distinguished ophthalmologist, a teacher of Physics, and also an expert navigator and skilled seaman. Nor can it often happen that he should occupy the Presidential chair of an important public body, a chair which his father had occupied not so many years before, and that he should be followed a few years later in the same honourable position by his younger brother.
Freeland Fergus, known to all as "F.F.," was the eldest surviving son of the late Dr. Andrew Fergus, a distinguished practitioner in Glasgow who was twice president of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons between the years 1874 and 1886. Freeland was in his 75th year when he died at his home in Rothesay, to which place he had retired after an active life of many interests, professional and social. He had held the presidency of a number of public bodies, of which the most important medically was that of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. This position Fergus held with great acceptance from 1918 to 1921. Such activities were outside his special work. Ophthalmology claimed Fergus's attention early. He graduated M.B., C.M. at Glasgow University in 1881, M.D. 1891, having, prior to graduation, studied Physics in the laboratory of Sir William Thomson (Lord Kelvin). This gave him a leaning towards ophthalmology and he went to study at Paris and at Utrecht, in which latter place he came under the influence of Snellen, a fact which, later, was apparent in his teaching. Returning to Glasgow he became Lecturer on Physics at the Anderson College of Medicine, worked in the medical wards of the Royal Infirmary, and afterwards became ophthalmic surgeon to that Institution. Finally, he established his life's professional work when he joined the staff of the Glasgow Eye Infirmary, from which institution he retired, in 1918, under the age limit, being at the time the senior of the surgeons, and having served as Surgeon for about 28 years.

Fergus was an excellent teacher, no doubt somewhat dogmatic, though none the worse on that account. The writer, who was one of his pupils, remembers with pleasure the informal teaching evenings at his private house, where, by the fireside, such subjects as the *pros* and *cons* of enucleation would be discussed. On the Eye Infirmary he has left his mark as one who fought hard for improvements both in the management of the Infirmary and in surgical technique. His criticisms during such conflicts were not always very temperate nor always quite merited, for his habit of mind leaned somewhat towards exaggeration. Nevertheless, it is probable that modern improvements are due in considerable degree to his constant insistence on their necessity.

Fergus became a member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom so long ago as 1888. He served on the Council from 1905 to 1908. In 1926 he was appointed a medical referee in ophthalmic cases under the Workmen's Compensation Act and, as a result of this and his previous experience as a witness, he dealt vigorously in speech and in print with the question of visual acuteness and working ability especially in cases of miners' nystagmus. In such cases his opinion was considered of great value. Indeed the question of working capacity had interested him ten years earlier.
when, as Major Fergus, he worked hard and systematically in the examination of recruits at Stobhill Hospital. Lastly, in connection with Fergus's public activities, one may perhaps consider that his recent labours in connection with the Welfare of the Blind in Scotland are to be regarded as at least equal to any of his other services.

This is not the occasion on which to particularise his numerous writings on various other ophthalmic subjects: they include articles on squint, trephining for glaucoma, colour vision in seamen and cataract extraction, particularly in connection with pre-operative cultures. His papers will be found scattered through the ophthalmological and general medical journals of the last forty years. Early in his career he translated Eduard Meyer's treatise and, later on, published small volumes of his own, "Elementary Ophthalmic Optics" and two editions of "The Ophthalmoscope and how to use it." That career may be said to have been crowned by the bestowal in 1921 of the honorary degree of LL.D. by the University of Glasgow.

Fergus was essentially a sociable man who made many friends among his professional brethren and among his patients. He was never married. He was a raconteur and told stories—many of them handed down by his father—with a zest which was invariably accompanied by his own infectious laughter. His favourite recreation was yachting, in which sport he was his own pilot.

HENRY AMBROSE LEDIARD, M.D., F.R.C.S.

The death of Dr. Lediard, of Carlisle on October 31, within a few days of his 85th birthday, removes one of the rapidly diminishing band of original members of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. Though not a prolific contributor to the Transactions he was the author of at least four communications of interest. Immediately following Sir William Bowman's inaugural address in the first volume will be found a short report by Lediard on a case of epithelioma of the orbit and eyeball, with the history of a previous growth on the lower lip. Among his other ophthalmic papers may be noted those on an orbital exostosis, an orbital dermoid, and a choroidal sarcoma with metastases.

A Gloucestershire man by birth, he was the son of the late Samuel Lediard, of Cirencester, solicitor. Born on November 12, 1847, he was educated at Cheltenham and Edinburgh. He took the M.B. in 1870, and proceeded M.D. in 1875 and F.R.C.S.Eng. in 1876. After serving as house surgeon and house physician to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary for a couple of years he came to London where he held the post of medical superintendent of the