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Book Review

“CLAYTON'S ELECTROTHERAPY AND ACTINOTHERAPY 7th EDITION”

Author: Pauline M. Scott
 Publisher: Bailliere and Tindall, 7-8 Henrietta St., London WC2E 8QE.
 Price: £4.50.

The 7th edition of Clayton's "Electrotherapy and Actinotherapy" maintains the high standard of its predecessors.

The book is intended for students preparing for the Chartered Society Examinations. The author has, therefore, omitted apparatus circuits (included in previous editions) and has added chapters on the physics of movement and hydrotherapy.

South African students, who still require a knowledge of apparatus circuits for Electromechanics examinations, will find it necessary to use this 7th edition in conjunction with the 6th edition. Chapters dealing with the basic principles of electromechanics and electrotherapy remain unaltered apart from minor changes to the text. Measurements (as for example used in ultraviolet irradiation) have been converted mainly to metric units. The chapter dealing with faradic and sinusoidal currents includes a short section on faradism to muscles of the pelvic floor.

On the whole, nothing new has been added to the description of electrotherapy techniques. Effects, uses, and theories regarding different modalities remain the same as in the 6th edition.

The final part of the book deals with the forces operating during active exercise, in, and out of, water. This section is well planned, interesting, and informative, and its inclusion will enable the overseas student to find the information required for the Preliminary Examination in Electromechanics and Movement, in one book. Is this section, however, not perhaps out of place in a book entitled "Electrotherapy and Actinotherapy"? Would it have been better for Miss Scott to have changed the title of her book, or, if this should have proved impossible, to have included, instead, more information about electrotherapy?

N. Van Wyk and M. Baudert

“PROGRESSIVE EXERCISE THERAPY”. In Rehabilitation and Physical Education by John H. C. Colson, F.C.S.P., F.S.R.G., MBAOT.

Published by John Wright and Sons, Ltd., Bristol.
 Price: £3.30

This excellent and well-known book has been updated and further improved by the addition of a section on music and movement. The first short section deals with basic principles in progressive exercises. The second section, which is also the largest, gives a wealth of free, progressive exercises for all the parts of the body, whilst the third section indicates some application of these exercises in common surgical conditions. The new fourth section gives a glimpse of circuit training, which is becoming more and more important with the development in sport medicine, and a detailed account of the use of music, movement and games in the treatment and recreational therapy of the mentally handicapped. This last section has great potential and can be modified and adapted to meet the requirements of many therapeutic situations. An invaluable textbook for students and excellent refresher course and stimulant for qualified physiotherapists.

N.G.

“THE PUZZLE OF PAIN” by Ronald Melzack.

Penguin Series of Behaviour. Penguin Education.

Most physiotherapy out-patients and certainly many in-patients present with pain as their chief complaint and this fascinating and stimulating paperback discusses in clear terms the psychology, clinical aspects and physiology of pain and the evolution of pain theories. Ronald Melzack