

with us so sincerely in our successes I offer a toast in the words of Tagore:

O Woman, you are not merely the handiwork of God, but also of men; these are ever endowing you with beauty from their hearts.

Poets are weaving for you a web with threads of golden imagery; painters are giving you form over new immortality.

The sea gives its pearls, the mines their gold, the summer gardens their flowers to deck you, to cover you, to make you more precious.

The desire of men's hearts has shed its glory over your youth. You are one-half woman and one-half dream.

Curtice Rosser, Dallas, Texas.

#### ERRATUM

In the article "An Office Procedure for the Rapid Estimation of Pepsin and its Clinical Significance," by Drs. Barowsky, Tauber and Kleiner, appearing in the June issue, note the following correction. In all four tables under the headings "FREE HCl" the words "c.c. N/100 per c.c." should have read "c.c. N/10 per 100 c.c."

## Book Reviews

*Synopsis of Digestive Diseases.* By John L. Kantor, Ph.D., M.D., 286 pages; C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Mo.

**T**HIS is a concise yet comprehensive and very informative review of the diseases of the digestive system.

The first part of the book is devoted to such important general considerations as classification of digestive disorders, diagnostic and therapeutic methods, and organic and functional inferiorities including the neuroses.

There then follows a more detailed consideration of the diseases affecting the various parts of the gastrointestinal tract and its accessories such as the liver, gall bladder and pancreas. This section includes an adequate though not lengthy discussion of the etiology, pathology, symptoms, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of the various organic disturbances of the digestive system.

The last few chapters are concerned with intestinal parasitic infestation and provide a very helpful review of the life history, mode of spread and the other general considerations of various intestinal parasites and the pathological changes they produce.

In the closing chapters there is a brief discussion of the more important extra-digestive diseases with digestive manifestations.

This small, well-bound book, although a synopsis of digestive diseases, is indeed a comprehensive review and should be welcomed by the general practitioner and the gastro-enterologist.

Hanes M. Fowler, Fort Wayne.

*Take Care of Yourself.* By J. W. Ephraim. New York, Simon and Schuster, Inc., 1937.

**H**ERE is another book for the guidance of the unwary purchaser of cosmetics and the type of drug that is commonly found in the family medicine

cabinet. Fortunately Mr. Ephraim spends little time in harrowing his readers' feelings and trying to scare them and horrify them over the dangers to life that lurk in many a proprietary drug or food. He spends most of his space on positive advice about the buying of drugs and cosmetics and about the care of the teeth, skin, hair, feet and bowels. There are chapters about shaving, sunburn, colds, indigestion, weight reduction, vitamins, antiseptics, "pain killers," sleep and "hang-overs."

There is much good advice, and for a layman, Mr. Ephraim has done very well. The specialist can cavil here and there, and perhaps he will not be as optimistic about curing things as Mr. Ephraim is, but on the whole he will say the book is useful and helpful.

Ephraim is on surest ground in the last chapter in which he points out to consumers that they have themselves to thank for the fact that daily they are robbed and gypped and flimflammed. If they weren't so credulous and so easily influenced by false advertising it wouldn't pay the manufacturer to spend millions on attractive copy. When once the writer of this review suggested to an intelligent college graduate that instead of buying Countess de Pom Pom's rejuvenating facial food for five dollars a small artistic jar she buy exactly the same cream from Ephraim for 50 cents a large jar, she answered that although she didn't have much faith in the Countess and was willing to admit that she was being gypped, the expensive stuff gave her a certain feeling of satisfaction and hopefulness that the other did not, and so she would go on buying the fancy little jar — which shows again that human nature demands deception and that people will always pay well anyone who will cater to their wishful thinking.

W. C. Alvarez, Rochester, Minn.