

From the point of view of the practitioner of *preventive* medicine, the book gives very adequately the basic facts underlying prophylaxis, but the preventive measures listed are applicable more often than not to conditions in large cities only. There are some minor faults of the book which, if given some space here, should not be regarded as seriously detracting from the merit of a useful book.

In the first place, the fatality data upon which the practitioner relies for one most important prognostic point are based for the most part upon hospital experience at the Willard Parker. The result is the fatality of a highly selected group. Thus, in discussing whooping cough, the author states that "in children under the age of twelve months, whooping cough is fatal in 20 to 35 per cent of hospital cases." Out of 171 cases under the age of one year which were recorded in various morbidity surveys performed under the direction of the United States Public Health Service and the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, there were only three deaths from whooping cough and its complications—a fatality rate for children under one year of only 1.8 per cent.

The young practitioner, fresh from his hospital internship and learning his prognosis from texts based on hospital experience, is often somewhat confused by the conditions which he encounters in private practice.

In the discussion on the Schick test, there is an implication that the removal of tonsils alters the Schick reaction in the statement: "In private practice the Schick test is used principally to determine whether or not immunization, as by the administration of toxin antitoxin, by an attack of the disease, or by tonsillectomy, has been accomplished." Published studies to date do not lend much credence to the earlier expressed views that tonsillectomy significantly influences the Schick reaction.

These are, however, minor criticisms of a worthy book.

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## THE ART OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING<sup>1</sup>

THE emphasis in this book is put upon the human aspects of service, pointing out the need for public health nurses to have a deeper

<sup>1</sup>Bryan, Edith S., M.A., Ph.D., R.N.: THE ART OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING. Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders Co., 1935, 282 pp. \$2.00.

understanding of people and an appreciation of the heritage of all racial groups. From her several years' experience as a teacher of university students, the author believes that technical training is not sufficient for the public health nurse and advises that her preparation should include a broad general and cultural education. The development of those qualities of personality which assist the nurse in working with all types of people is also stressed.

In the chapters dealing with the duties of an infant welfare nurse, a school nurse, and an industrial nurse, which are discussed in much detail, it is emphasized again that the successful nurse is one who has a genuine love of people. These chapters are of value to the experienced nurse already working in one or all of these fields, and of equal importance to the beginner who might easily overlook the significance of the family health problem or the general community health program.

There are chapters explaining the need for definite organization of lay people to assist the nurse in establishing her program. Even further discussion of this subject would be timely, for there is increasing realization that the interest and participation of the people of the community largely determine the success and the stage of progress of the health program. There are also suggestions given for ways in which the public health nurse can cooperate with existing local, state, and national agencies.

This book furnishes excellent supplementary reading for beginning students in public health nursing courses. It is also of interest to advanced students because of the many illustrations of practical ways of working and of methods of teaching. The book has an exceptionally good title.

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