

REVIEWS

SPORTS MEDICINE SEMINAR

August 30th-31st, 1973, Singapore.

Edit. S. K. Lee and K. H. Lim, Published by Singapore National Olympic Council, 1973.

Price unmarked. Pages 137.

Medicine is a life science, and it is to be expected that it will find increasing application in all human activities. However, for Singapore, Sports medicine is an entirely new field, and this seminar marks the beginning of its local emergence. Like all newborns, the imperfections are many and readers of this book will find the contributions very unbalanced. Other than a few papers from workers with personal experience and expertise and hence of great interest, there are also a number which are mere rehash, and would benefit by a stricter editing. From the weightier contributions, one sees that the controversy of the status of athlete's heart is still unresolved, and the disputes in the field of psychiatry waxing hot and fierce. It will bring home also to people who cling on more from loyalty than reason to the distinctions between amateurism and professionalism,

the fact that sport is now an applied science where the mechanism of effort, the nurturing of strength, the rationale of training, and the environmental conditions are all controllable and becoming state effort. Perhaps in a decade, the intrusion of medicine into the field of sports will sound the death knell of the amateur. The contribution to the topic of doping is sparse, but it can be seen that this will become increasingly important with the passing years.

The book is well printed and attractively bound, but unfortunately full of printing errors. One must however, not expect perfection in a neonate, and every local doctor and layman interested in physical exercise would do well to possess a copy.

Gwee Ah Leng

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GRAY'S ANATOMY—35th Edition

By Roger Warwick and Peter L. Williams

(Pp. viii + 1471; 1347 figures), Published by Longman, Edinburgh.

The 33rd edition of Gray's Anatomy was revised by the late Professor D. V. Davies who did immense service to anatomists all over the world by effecting major changes and by providing new material in the 34th edition of the book. Similar trends have continued in this 35th edition of Gray edited by Professor Warwick and Professor Williams of Guy's Hospital, School of Medicine. The present authors have to be congratulated on the magnificent way the revision had been undertaken. As the authors themselves point out, a third of the illustrations are new and the various chapters have been thoroughly revised so as to bring them in line with modern trends. For example, the chapters on Cytology and Neurology had been given their due prominence. Moreover, an extensive bibliography has been introduced so that advanced students of Anatomy could refer to original papers on controversial problems.

Although the book is an invaluable acquisition for all teachers of Anatomy, there might be con-

troversy as to whether this book could be recommended as a textbook for medical students when anatomy as a subject is nurtured with step-child affection and taught with diminishing competence. Nevertheless, it is felt that both medical and dental students could replace the plethora of textbooks recommended for their course in Anatomy by this single textbook which provides an adequate coverage on Cytology, Embryology, Histology and Neurology, in addition to the usual content of Topographical Anatomy. The only difficulty that the student may encounter in the present edition of Gray's Anatomy may be the choice of material that is relevant to him. In this, guidance from lectures is no doubt essential.

As the authors themselves have admitted there are spelling mistakes and erroneous quotations. These, it is hoped will be overcome in the next edition of Gray's Anatomy.

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