“that the main and principal operations of nature are carried out.”

His life has particular interest for Americans because of his connection with the development of what is now the state of Georgia, which “was founded in an attempt to remedy the social conditions of England... Georgia was both a philanthropic and an imperialistic enterprise.”

One is somewhat astounded at the variety of his interests and the excellence of his work in each. He was perpetual curate of Teddington, and served that living for more than fifty years. He was a preacher of no mean ability, a plant and animal physiologist, one of our earliest hygienists and sanitarians, but in spite of all this he went wrong on a supposed cure for stone in the bladder, consisting of calcined snails, wild carrot seeds, burdock seeds, ashen keys, hips and haws, all burned to blackness, soap and honey, invented by one Joanna Stephens, though he was severe in dealing with other quacks. In this connection, he carried out a number of experiments in attempting to dissolve stones which had been removed, and in spite of his lack of success fell into the error of backing this particular cure.

As a biography, the work is exceptionally well done. The illustrations are numerous and beautiful, and prove Hales’s ingenuity in devising and making such apparatus as well as his genius in working up the scientific problems. The author closes with an adaptation of words of John Wesley: “how well did science and religion agree in this man of sound understanding.”

M. P. RAVENEL


Buddie and Blossom have a series of adventures, first with the vegetables in the garden, then with animals who give them a lesson in the care of their teeth, with water and cleanliness, play times in the sunshine and numerous other incidents that indirectly teach the lessons of healthful living. This author, whose “Brownies’ Health Book” has been so popular among teachers and primary grade children, has prepared another charming and interesting supplementary health reader. It has been delightfully illustrated by Eloise Burns.

**ANNA B. TOWSE**

**Diseases of the Thyroid Gland—By Arthur E. Hertzler, M.D. St. Louis: Mosby, 1929. 286 pp. Price, $7.50.**

Frankness, honesty and clarity are outstanding in this work of Hertzler. He is perfectly honest in stating the deficiencies in our knowledge of the thyroid, our ignorance of the etiology of even the commoner lesions, and the causes of the clinical manifestations. In stating these deficiencies, however, he opens up fields for further and new studies.

The subject matter and the material from which it is drawn are taken up by a master of pathology who in his zeal as a clinician and surgeon does not lose sight of the pathologic background—the cause of the disease, its manifestations, its progress and result. He views the problem from the point of the practical application of his science to the benefit and relief of the patient.

In studies of the thyroid, if the classification and terminology of its diseases were presented as Hertzler has done, in a clear, simple manner, there would be less confusion and misunderstanding. Clinicians and pathologists often lack in agreement of opinion concerning a thyroid, or a particular type or group of thyroids. This often does not represent a real difference, but a lack of proper understanding of these glands, and a common nomenclature and classification. Accurate clinical observations, gross and microscopic studies of the
gland should be available before a diagnosis is made on a thyroid.

It is a relief to read a present-day book on medicine in which the writer acknowledges the full value of laboratory work, but still insists upon the *tactus eruditus* of the "old school of medicine" that gave such men as Gross, Fenger and Senn.

By homely idioms and comparisons, Hertzler drives home many important facts that might otherwise receive little attention. He simplifies diseases of the thyroid to an extreme degree, yet omits none of the impressions and opinions of others whose writings often show such confusion of terms as to lose value when one tries to read, interpret and apply them.

The numerous illustrations are exceptionally good, well chosen and actually illustrate. M. PINSON NEAL


There is certainly no excuse for the public to remain in ignorance of the fundamentals of preventive medicine or medicine in general, as for some years past numbers of books—good, bad, and indifferent—have appeared, written for the general public, all of them couched in language intended to be non-technical.

The book by Park and Williams is the outcome of a series of radio talks on communicable diseases and the germs which cause them. It ends with a chapter showing the application of bacteriology to the ordinary affairs of life, and contains a number of simple illustrations, most of which are good.

The book by Thomson is different from the general run, and has the advantage of being much smaller. It goes more into the symptoms of the diseases spoken of, though cause and prevention are not neglected. Thomson is the son of Professor J. Arthur Thomson, than whom there is no better expositor of the biological sciences writing in the English language. This is the first book of his which has come to the reviewer's notice, but we hope it will not be the last.

Both of these books can be recommended without hesitation to those who, without special training in biology and medicine, wish to understand the fundamental laws of health and the reasons which underlie them.

M. P. RAVENEL


The fifth volume of the collected works of Louis Pasteur edited by Pasteur Vallery-Radot contains the famous monograph on the diseases of beer, the causes which induce them, and the means of preserving beer from alteration. This investigation has a significant position in the historical development of Pasteur's career and is revealed in the phrase appended to the main title of the monograph, to wit: "with a new theory of fermentation."

This investigation afforded Pasteur another opportunity to reinforce his proofs of the non-spontaneity of germs, of the non-transformation of one species of microscopic germ into another species, and gave him the occasion to monograph the yeasts associated with alcoholic fermentation.

This monograph also records a notable expansion of Pasteur's comprehension of the significance of his discoveries as revealed in his chapter on the physiological theory of fermentation. In