

BOOK REVIEW

THE PROGRESS OF PLASTIC SURGERY

An Introductory history by Antony F. Wallace 1982. Publisher Oxford, Willem A Meeuws, 184 pp., 45 illustrations. Hard back £ 9.50, Soft back £ 6.50. The book is available with Holdon Books Ltd., 15 North Parade Av. Oxford OX2 6LX, England.

The progress of plastic surgery is an introductory history of the development of plastic surgery through the centuries, written by a practising plastic surgeon with clinical responsibilities, and a special interest in the history of medicine. This important work fills a gap in the history of medicine which no other contemporary book has attempted to fill. The author has divided the book in twenty chapters, and each chapter deals with the history and development of that subject. It is surprising that Dr. Wallace has so brilliantly succeeded in putting together the stepwise evolution of so many subjects. The contributions made by Indian, Chinese, Egyptian, Roman and Greek Scholars are all adequately quoted, besides the recent and more spectacular contributions by European and American workers. Many works have been rediscovered after a lapse of several years.

The book is an important addition to the already existing works on the history of medicine, but possibly the first of its kind dealing exclusively with plastic surgery. The book is a must for every medical library.

N. N. Khanna

RECENT ADVANCES IN PLASTIC SURGERY

By Ian T. Jackson, Number 2, 1981 Churchill Livingstone and distributed in India by B. I. publications. 61-63 Lakshmi Building, 4th Floor, Sir Firoz Shah Mehta Road, Bombay—400 001.

This is an authoritative book written by distinguished specialists from all over the world and edited by Ian T. Jackson, an eminent plastic surgeon of international repute. The subjects for the review articles have been carefully chosen and represent mainly those areas in which spectacular new developments have taken place in recent years. Sixteen subjects have been covered and they deal with craniofacial surgery, free flaps, myocutaneous flaps, hand surgery, joint replacements, facial palsy etc.

Each of the reviewers is an expert on the subject. The chapters are well illustrated by line diagrams as well as photographs. There is an up-to-date bibliography following each review.

The book will be greatly welcome not only by the trainee surgeon but by every plastic surgeon who wishes to remain abreast of current knowledge. It is a must for every library.

N. N. Khanna

MALE AESTHETIC SURGERY

Edited by Eugene H. Courtiss. Publisher C. V. Mosby London, 1982, \$ 78.50, Distributors in India B. I. Publications, 61-63 Lakshmi Building, 4th Floor, Sir Ferozeshah Mehta Road, Bombay-400 001.

This is a unique book dealing with the increasing demand by male patients for aesthetic surgery, written by 48 contributors, with 801 illustrations and 426 pages. The editor Eugene H. Courtiss, M. D. is a Professor of Plastic Surgery at the Boston University School of Medicine and has spent a life time dealing with aesthetic surgery both in the male and female. In this volume the editor has tried to lay particular emphasis in the differences between males and females, the goals to be achieved and the response by the patients.

The whole book has been divided into ten sections consisting of aesthetic objectives, general considerations, interface between aesthetic and reconstructive surgery, scars and tatoos, baldness, cranial and facial contouring, aging, chest contouring, abdomen, thigh, buttock and genitalia. Each section is divided into chapters, dealing with different aspects of the problem. The contributors of these chapters are all experts in their field. After each chapter there is an up-to-date bibliography followed by editors perspective and gender differences.

Most of the chapters have line drawings in addition to photographs to make the understanding of the technique easier.

The editor needs to be congratulated for selecting a good team of experts and for bringing out a useful book.

N. N. Khanna