ATLAS OF NEUROPATHOLOGY. By Wm. BLACKWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.E., Assistant Pathologist, National Hospital, Queen Square; formerly Senior Lecturer in Neuropathology, Edinburgh University. T. C. DODDS, F.I.M.L.T., F.I.B.P., F.R.P.S., Laboratory Supervisor, Department of Pathology, Edinburgh University; and J. C. SOMMERVILLE, A.I.M.L.T., Senior Technician, Department of Neuropathology, Edinburgh University. Foreword by Professor A. Murray Drennan, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.S.E. 10 x 7½ in. Pp. xi+199, with 262 figures, 30 in colour. Index. 1949. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price 35 -.

In recent years the Edinburgh School of Medicine, ably assisted by the publishing house of E. & S. Livingstone, has distinguished itself by the publication of a number of atlases in which the choice of subject and the execution of the illustrations are noteworthy. The present volume is a worthy addition to the series. As Professor Drennan writes in the foreword, it represents the "combined effort of the pathologist, who identifies and selects the lesion, the technician who makes possible its detailed study and the artist who perpetuates it for all to see." As in research, advance in teaching methods is thus fostered.

FIG. 43

Cerebral artery showing a mycotic aneurysm. The organisms in the infected embolus can be seen as a bluish haze at the periphery of the embolus. The arterial wall is weakened and bulging (upwards and to the right) and there has evidently been some leakage of blood (haemalum and eosin; $\times 80$).

FIG. 54

Cerebral cortex in a case of meningococcal leptomeningitis. The surface is very congested and the creamy coloured purulent exudate is most abundant in the regions where the subarachnoid space is large, e.g., along the sulci (as shown), in the basal cisterns and around the cauda equina. A large vein runs across the field.

The authors begin with illustrations of the normal histological structure of the central nervous system, and in a series of ten chapters progress through Vascular Disease, Infections, Demyelinisations, Intoxications, Degenerations, Trauma, Hydrocephalus, Tumours and Errors in Development. "The purpose of the atlas is to try to present to clinicians or pathologists beginning the study of neuropathology the most important pathological conditions in a clear and simple way." Towards this end the authors have been uniformly successful. In each of the chapters there are illustrations of the common pathological conditions. The naked eye lesion, as the student or pathologist sees it, is illustrated first. Then, in a series of well-chosen and competently executed photographs, the general features of the pathological process are made clear. Each illustration is accompanied by a descriptive legend, and in addition there is sufficient matter in the text to assist the beginner to an understanding of the disease. In many instances the illustrations are accompanied by a brief clinical history of the patient from whom the pathological specimen was obtained.

It is obvious that the value of such an atlas depends upon the choice of subject material and the quality of the illustrations. The authors have chosen wisely. The quality of the illustrations is in general excellent. A few of those in colour are not quite faithfully reproduced. The occasional diagram and drawing still further help the student to obtain a clear picture of the disease process. This atlas will be a useful companion to the young pathologist embarking on the study of neuropathology. To the clinician who takes an interest in the disease process it will be a valuable visual aid. Authors and publishers are to be congratulated upon the production of a book which is not one to borrow but to buy.—J. Henry BIGGART.