

Book Review

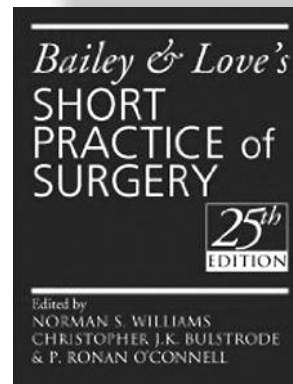
Bailey and Love's Short Practice of Surgery 25th Edition

Edited by Norman S. Williams, Christopher J. K. Bulstrode and P. Ronan O'Connell

Hodder Arnold part of Hachette Livre, 2008

The original book published by Hamilton Bailey and McNeill Love continues to be one of the favourites for surgical trainees. This book has now reached its 25th edition anniversary or Silver Jubilee edition and has held on to its excellent text and the aim of teaching basic surgery to undergraduates. It has also encompassed the superspecialisation that has occurred over the last 25 years. This textbook is a surgical bible for all seasons of one's career. It is an excellent introduction to the undergraduate because of its clarity of text and tremendous images both clinical and operative. It is an excellent reference for the general surgeon trainee who must familiarise himself with all the surgical techniques and subspecialisations that occur within surgery. It is a great book for the established general surgeon who is a teacher, an examiner, in higher surgical exams keeping abreast with the modern developments in the subspecialties which is not an easy task. Many mature surgeons who are still involved in higher surgical exams refer to this text for up to date information and keeping one step ahead of the candidate when necessary.

The book has retained its link with the past by reminding budding surgeons about the importance of historical heritage but at the same time keeping in touch with our current management of all types of surgical conditions. It is beautifully laid out with coloured figures and illustrations of clinical picture and operative principles that are a delight to read often making the condition and procedure more simple than it really is. It is an excellent introduction to surgery for the beginner both at undergraduate level and postgraduate level. This book is a must for any practicing surgeon at whatever stage in their career. The three current editors are all experienced teachers of surgical craft and have made an excellent job to continue the long tradition of Bailey and Love, short practice of surgery into the 21st century.



Review by Professor Robert Carachi

Editor-in-chief, Scottish Medical Journal