deeply and in unbiased and unprejudiced manner into the life of the schizophrenic, on the one hand, and into the ethnological material on the other." In the first section we find discussed, at some length, the archaic-primitive motivation of thought and of motor tendencies in schizophrenies; the schizophrenic’s consciousness of self; his thinking in concrete complex images; his ego-fusion with the objective world. In the second section, the archaic-primitive emotional attitudes and directions of mental experience, the magic-taboo attitude, and the magic primitive transformations of the personality are dealt with. Whether or no we agree with the author’s deductions, he has here set forth a mass of highly interesting material which any student of psychiatry can only read with interest and profit.

C. S. R.


This readable little volume is largely written round a case of idiopathic epilepsy which has been followed for thirty years or more, and which has from the outset presented somewhat unusual features. On analysis, Dr. Fraser rejects the possibility of any psychogenesis for his case, and inclines to the view of morbid action in the cortex, "the result of a toxin whose presence in the blood or cerebrospinal fluid causes constriction of arterioles, with dilatation of capillaries." The author happens to be himself a subject of migraine, and he has furnished the reader with interesting comments on his own symptoms which he considers throw a definite light on the problem of epilepsy; others have thought the same of migraine before him. He supports his thesis, for which he claims no novelty, by a closely-reasoned argument buttressed by clinical instances, and, above all, by references to the magistral work of Dr. Hughlings Jackson, for whom it is evident he has a profound admiration.


The second part of the first volume of this encyclopaedia maintains the promise of the first. It contains an article from the pen of Professor Alexander on the pathological anatomy of the neural mechanisms of the ear, and one by Professor Marburg, of a more general kind, on neuropathology. The former contains astonishingly few references to the work of investigators outside Austria and Germany; the reviewer found no indication of appreciation of the labours of Fraser and others in this country. The latter provides a short sketch of the chief pathological processes of the central nervous system.
The remainder of the volume is taken up with communications on the diagnosis of organic deafness by means of cochlear reflexes, tests of acoustic function, general symptomatology of affections of the vestibular nerve, the investigation of nystagmus, and the x-ray diagnosis of diseases of the organ of hearing. In the article on nystagmus will be found numerous records obtained from various instruments for registering the ocular movements.

As before, a word is due to the publishers for the excellent printing and beautiful reproduction of photographs and illustrations of all kinds scattered through the pages.


Dr. Hurst has reprinted in this volume a number of lectures and articles that have already appeared elsewhere, and with the neurological items of which our readers are probably already familiar. Included in these are papers on the diagnosis of the nervous disorders of the stomach and intestines, on puerperal anæmia and subacute combined degeneration of the spinal cord, on the hysterical element in organic disease and injury of the central nervous system, and on contractures, considered as localized tetanus, a reflex disorder, or hysteria. In their new form these essays and addresses are assured of welcome. The book is well illustrated and contains useful bibliographies.


From a study of some twenty-three cases of psychoses occurring in the course of neurosyphilis not of the general paralytic variety, the author furnishes the following classification: (1) Exogenous reaction types, viz., confusional states, Korsakow-like states, ‘twilight’ psychoses, and conditions of the type of amentia. (2) Hallucinatory and paranoid types. (3) Chronic mental defects, either syphilitic pseudoparalysis, or postsyphilitic dementia. (4) Manic-depressive and catatonic varieties. Dr. Fabritius declares that “in all probability” these differing psychotic affections must be set down to the action of the luetic virus, but in spite of a general survey of the question in an introductory chapter, with references to the literature, he does not seriously tackle the difficult problem of direct causation versus coincidence, nor is there any attempt to explain how one and the same toxic agent can give rise to clinical psychical states differing immensely in their character. The monograph, however, is of some documentary value.