REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS

to the functioning of cells in the grey matter of the cerebrum, and that, physiologically speaking, specifically different functions are always fulfilled by specifically different cells; and he concludes that each of the three "specifically distinct elementary psychical functions" is "fulfilled by its particular types of cells, which are grouped each within its special organ" in the organ-complex of the brain. It is entirely unphysiological to suppose that the same cell should have two different elementary functions, such as feeling and intellectual activity, and there is no reason to believe, on account of its special attributes, that the brain in this respect occupies a special position among all living organisms.

With Dr. Thalbitzer's views on the actual localisation of the 'feeling centre,' for example, we confess we are not in agreement, nor do we think his contentions for the association of the frontal region of the brain with 'thought proper' impressive; but of the soundness of his main argument we think there is no question. A book of this kind serves as a useful corrective and reminder when a possible localisation of psychic elements is unthinkingly negatived by those who are not familiar with the evidence furnished by nervous and mental disease.

S. A. K. W.


This little work is one of the 'New Psychology' handbooks and presents the subject in a popular form. The historical development of the concept 'mind' is discussed, and chapters follow on the brain and nervous system, and on brain processes and mental activity. Treatment is discussed from the point of view of physiological psychology, which really is pure physiology. Later the subjects of psychic energy, telepathy, clairvoyance, sleep, dreams, intuition, hypnosis and subconsciousness are briefly dealt with. In the last chapter —"Present position of research"—it is well pointed out that the question of 'brain and mind' has been obviously regarded from too limited a standpoint and that it is possible to assume that every cell of the body may possess a 'mind' of its own. Much useful information has been condensed into these pages and the author deals with a difficult subject in such a way that the publication will amply fulfill its purpose.

C. S. R.


This handsome and eminently useful textbook on the nervous and mental diseases of children owes its origin, in a sense, to the well-known volume on
the same subject written more than twenty years ago by Dr. Bernard Sachs. It is, however, a new book in a real sense, for the subject material has been reclassed, each chapter has been rewritten, and many new ones have been added. As a whole, it embodies the conclusions of the senior author, derived from over forty years of neurological practice.

Introductory chapters on neural structure and function and on methods of examination are followed by a complete compendium of organic nervous disease as met with in infants and children, by a section on endocrine disorders, and by descriptions of the neuroses and psychoneuroses, the insanities, idiocy and imbecility, of the same age periods. One particularly interesting chapter, on the normal child and normal youth, deserves wide attention, containing as it does a reasoned criticism of Freudian doctrines and an emphatic protest against the indiscriminate application of ilconsidered psychotherapeutic methods to the problems of youthful minds. This chapter is noteworthy for its healthy, sane, commonsense insight into the heart of youth.

With good illustrations and adequate bibliographies the volume should be assured of wide appreciation.

S. A. K. W.


This small volume comprises discussions on the body-mind, the clinical examination of mental invalids, the causation of mental diseases and their prevention, their classification, and some aspects and methods of curative treatment. Most of the contents give us old-fashioned conceptions. Thus monomania, delusion and impulsion psychosis are part of the author's nomenclature. The relationship between impaired nervous structure and the constitutional psychoses given is not credited by most modern psychiatrists. Evidence is certainly lacking that their pathology lies specifically in disease of the cerebral association areas. We feel, too, prejudiced against a writer who states that one of the methods of psychoanalysis is crystal-gazing. Dr. Easterbrook was one of the first to stress the importance of rest in the open air in the case of an active psychosis. In the chapter on therapy are sketched out more modern ideas, and the importance of voluntary treatment and the linking up of general and mental hospitals is pointed out. Though the literary material is well presented, there is little in it which would lead us to recommend the book as an up-to-date presentation of the subject.

C. S. R.


The new part of Messrs. Livingstone's practical Catechism Series is concerned with diseases usually described as mental; the neuroses and psychoneuroses, with epilepsy, are included, as is drug addiction, and the concluding chapters
Nervous and Mental Disorders from Birth through Adolescence
S. A. K. W.

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