the high standard of its predecessors. A long article of over 150 pages, from the pen of Professor Marburg, deals with vestibular, cerebellar, and pontocerebellar tumours, and is particularly useful from the viewpoint of differential diagnosis. In two tables are summarised the symptoms referable respectively to the cochlear and the vestibular divisions of the eighth nerve when the site of the tumour is, in turn, in one of the following five positions, viz., pontocerebellar angle, cerebellum, ventricle, pons and medulla, and corpora quadrigemina. We do not remember having seen in any other textbook so useful a compendium of diagnostic data. Dr. Donk writes on the operative treatment of cerebral tumours, and Dr. Sgalitzer on the radiotherapy of ear affections, inclusive of tumours of the posterior fossa. The difficult problems concerned with dyskinesia and dystonia and their relation to disorders of the cochleo-vestibular apparatus are discussed at considerable length by Dr. E. Pollak, whose article is of much interest at the present time, even if to some extent inconclusive and open to criticism.

Among other monographs to which attention may be directed are those on miners' nystagmus, seasickness, on problems arising out of flying, on neuroses and psychoses in which cochlear and labyrinthine phenomena are prominent.

No detailed examination of this third volume is possible in the space at our disposal, but in our opinion it constitutes an admirable addition to the literature of aural neurology and in its presentment of modern systematised knowledge easily surpasses previous publications dealing with the same subjects. It is a fine product of the scientific and clinical activities of the Viennese school of medicine.

S. A. K. W.


Price not stated.

Dr. Paulian has collected in this small volume a number of his papers dealing with clinical neurology and neuropathology, most of which have already appeared in foreign journals. Among them we may mention the more outstanding. One deals with the treatment of epidemic encephalitis, both in its acute and its chronic stages, by means of 'spinal autoserotherapy,' the patient receiving by lumbar puncture some 10 cc. of his own blood serum, withdrawn the day before and injected after being raised to a temperature of 56° C., a similar quantity of spinal fluid being removed. The results claimed by the author are such as to justify further experimentation with this method. Another paper records in detailed fashion the nervous complications of typhus fever, and is a useful contribution to a little known subject. Another is concerned with showing that the blood pressure of tabetics is lower than normal, that
it rises during attacks of lightning pains, gastric crises, etc., and that the prompt administration of adrenalin is particularly serviceable in cutting short these distressing conditions. A further interesting paper bears on the problem of the differential diagnosis between Parkinson's disease and states of Parkinsonism. According to Dr. Paulian there is a definite difference in sedimentation tests in the two conditions. He allows venous blood to run into a syringe which contains a five per cent. solution of sodium citrate, and transfers the mixture to a tube of some 4 mm. diameter, graduated with a millimetre scale, observing the sedimentation every quarter of an hour. In Parkinson's disease it is found to be more rapid and more abundant.


At the posterior end of the third ventricle the ependymal lining on the under surface of the posterior commissure differs in form and dimensions from that covering the rest of the neighbouring ventricular surface. It is thicker and arranged in several layers, its cells are prismatic rather than cuboidal, and between it and the transverse fibres of the commissure is interposed a bed of neuroglial tissue. These differences have suggested to more than one observer the possibility that here is situated an organ, with a function, and to it the name of the 'sub-commissural organ' has been given. It is found throughout the vertebrate series and is especially prominent in certain mammals; it is recognisable in the human foetus at an early and a late stage, but after birth it soon loses its distinctiveness and becomes altogether rudimentary. As is known, the fibre of Reissner is also found in association with the posterior commissure, to which it reaches in most mammals, but it, too, is absent in man.

Dr. Krabbe's monograph contains an account of all that is known in connection with this organ, and a record of his researches on its form in a large number of mammals, as well as in man. He also discusses possible theories of its function, concluding with great hesitation that it has conceivably a motor function relating to the circulation of the cerebrospinal fluid through the iter of Sylvius.


For the anatomist and the histologist Professor Worobiew's book provides material of lively interest. By means of an ingenious technique full details of which are given, colouration and lighting being specially important, the author is able to demonstrate the structural form of nerve cells, fibres, and
ganglia in a way which, one may safely say, will be a revelation to those who are familiar only with stained microscopical sections. The author has succeeded in demonstrating the morphology of these tissues in situ, using a special binocular microscope for the purpose, so that the student can obtain a visual knowledge of nerve elements on a larger scale than is possible by mere dissection, yet without losing that sense of their continuity which ordinary microscopical methods will not allow. The beautiful illustrations provided in the book, especially, perhaps, those of nerve ganglia, seem to open a new world to the eye that has been educated only by the routine of practical anatomy and of microscopical histology. It should be said that Professor Worobiew's method is applicable to many other structures than those which concern the neurologist, as his photographs show.


The author bases his subject upon an energetic psychological foundation and in Part I stresses the thesis that the relief of tension is a biological aim. "Pain represents the conscious manifestation of a state of tension, and pleasure the conscious manifestation of the reduction of tension." This is regarded as true both of the physical and mental worlds. Through various conscious and unconscious mental processes emotional conflicts may be engendered and result in the discharge of tension in abnormal ways, with the production of psychopathological symptoms. The various methods of psychotherapy are sketched out and their rationale discussed in Part II. Part III is devoted to the description and treatment of the common functional diseases, in which the Freudian classification and terminology are followed. Their specific pathology in the main is wisely omitted. Useful chapters dealing with the psychogenic element in disorders of menstruation and pregnancy, the sexual life, and alcoholism are included. The mental factor in asthma and mucous colitis is briefly discussed, while in conclusion the psychoanalytic treatment of so-called functional insanity is spoken of in a few pages.

Any adverse criticism can only be directed to a few points. Though hypochondria is mentioned among the actual neuroses (p. 116) it is not included in the classification or dealt with in any way. The general practitioner will surely look for information on this not infrequent and ill-understood neurosis. We miss, too, any discussion on the secondary aim of a psychoneurosis, which for various reasons is of great practical import. The final chapter on functional insanity should be reconsidered, as therein are many inaccuracies and terms used loosely. Is it really true to say that "many neurotic and hysterical manifestations progress and merge into unmistakable and true dementias"?

To say that dementia praecox and paranoia are the two forms of psychosis which will respond best to psychoanalysis and that many psychologists of
repute have thus cured cases, are bold statements which could hardly be scientifically verified. On investigation such cases have usually been found to have been diagnosed wrongly. One would be much more inclined to state that it is particularly in these two types of psychosis that psychoanalysis would be of little or no avail, though paranoid reactions which not uncommonly are met with in psychoneuroses may be cured by its means. True paranoiacs do not have hallucinations as stated. The relationship of psychoanalysis to the psychoses must be handled more tentatively, or false impressions will be made on uncritical readers be they lay or medical.

Apart from these drawbacks the book deals very well with the functional nervous disorders and is written in a clear and popular style which will make the contents all the more acceptable to a larger sphere of readers. The index shows many important omissions.

C. S. R.


To attempt within comparatively small confines a wide conspectus of the problems of human personality, physiological and pathological, or normal and abnormal, is a task in some ways as difficult as to deal with them after the manner of the encyclopædia. What strikes the reader of Dr. Gordon’s attractive volume most is possibly the author’s facility in reaching the heart of a problem with succinctness and clarity. There are many questions to be handled if any adequate conception of the mosaic of constituents in personality is to be gained: for example, discussion is required to determine as far as may be the view of the interrelation of mind and body best calculated, in the author’s opinion, to explain personality data. This is only a preliminary problem, as it were, yet it is one of surpassing importance. In common with various writers of recent years, Dr. Gordon clearly tends to favour a hypothesis of a dynamic form of energy, obliterating to a large extent old distinctions between mind and matter, and in support of this monistic attitude he summons to his aid the principle of emergence, according to which there is no inherent inconsistency in the idea that high-grade mental processes should emerge from reflex combinations, since these combinations are more than a sum of their component units. No break of any nonplussing character can be detected in the series from the simple reflex arc, through conditioned reflexes, to those subserving consciousness and reflective thought. In the author’s treatment of normal personality further consideration is given to the large groups of intrinsic and extrinsic factors moulding and modifying it, at varying levels of activity, physiological and endocrinological, and psychological. In respect of the latter, an attempt is made to evaluate the contributions of Freud, Jung, Adler, and Kempf respectively.
Reviews and Notices of Books

C. S. R.

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