

**Ueber Umbau und Abbau der Sprache bei Geistesstörung.** By Dr. F. G. STOCKERT, University of Halle. Berlin: S. Karger. 1929. Pp. 82. Price Mk. 7.80.

A THOUGHTFUL and readable essay in speech pathology is concerned not so much with aphasia sensu strictiori as with disorders of intonation, accent, 'melody,' and rhythm on the one hand, and with mutism, perseveration, verbigeration, 'Ideenflucht,' and speech medley on the other. These various departures from normality are discussed as they occur in a setting or background of mental impairment, and illustrated in an interesting fashion. Reference is made to still other anomalies of both neurological and psychiatric importance, such as the echolalia and coprolalia of Gilles de la Tourette's disease, pleonasm, speech 'contaminations' and 'word-monsters,' etc., such as are encountered in some of the psychoses. The general interpretation of these abnormalities here offered follows in part lines laid down by Wernicke and Kleist, and their relation to certain apraxic syndromes (ideomotor parapraxia) is discussed.

**Die Encephalitis Lethargica : ihre Nachkrankheiten und ihre Behandlung.** By Prof. Dr. C. v. ECONOMO, Vienna. With 21 illustrations. Berlin and Vienna: Urban and Schwarzenberg. 1929. Pp. 251. Price Mk. 20; bound, Mk. 22.

IN the convenient form of a comprehensive monograph the reader will find everything that is at present known of epidemic encephalitis summarised and critically discussed by the Viennese authority, Prof. von Economo. Where all is so well done it is perhaps of minor importance to comment adversely, yet we cannot refrain from remarking that the least satisfactory aspect of the book is the sketchiness of the attempt to correlate semiology and pathological anatomy. The lacunæ here are really rather striking; and this is the more regrettable since the author is evidently aware of the discrepancies between these two that have characterised a number of reported cases. On the other hand, the richness of the clinical and pathological descriptions separately leaves nothing to be desired. In an endeavour to assign an exact nosological position to the affection comparison and contrast with other varieties of encephalitis are carefully assessed, yet we miss allusion to rabies, which of them all most closely resembles the epidemic disease, especially in its early attack on the substantia nigra.

S. A. K. W.

**Der Kopfschmerz und seine Behandlung.** By Doz. Dr. EUGEN POLLAK, Vienna. Leipzig and Vienna: Franz Deuticke. 1929. Pp. 158. Price Mk. 9.

HEADACHE, head sensations and neuralgia, beset the human race. Some persons are scarcely ever free from headache, others have never had one in

their lives. A reputedly 'minor' symptom, it is nevertheless accountable for much interference with working capacity as well as for ill-temper and other derivatives that need not be particularised. Dr. Pollak deals compendiously with headache as it appears in association with recognisable causes—infections, toxicoses, vascular disorders, neuroses, and affections of eye, nose, ear, teeth, and so forth. If there is nothing conspicuously novel in his handling of so wide-ranging a topic, headache itself is old and we suppose everything has already been said of it that can be said. He accepts the vasomotor theory of migraine and evidently believes there is some ground for Spitzer's hypothesis of a temporary unilateral hydrocephalic state accompanying its manifestations.

Of considerable practical value are the very numerous therapeutic suggestions to be found throughout the book.

**Sulla Sclerosi Laterale Amiotrofica.** By Dr. PAOLO OTTONELLO, Pavia. (Vol. xviii of *Rassegna di Studi Psichiatrici*, ed. by Dr. D'Ormea). Siena; Stab. Tip. S. Bernardino. 1929. Pp. 326. Price not stated.

DR. OTTONELLO has written a fine monograph on Charcot's disease, based on clinical and pathological study of abundant personal material. It is a model of what such contributions should be. As an appendix are provided resumé's of his conclusions in French, German, and English—no doubt of value to the hurried reader but, we trust, superfluous for the educated neurologist. His researches show that amyotrophic lateral sclerosis should be considered a systematised affection implicating upper and lower motor neuron systems independently and often unequally, and they cast doubt on the theory of transsynaptic degeneration. He believes on pathological grounds that the condition is in essence one of primary degeneration and that evidence favouring a toxi-infective hypothesis is scanty and probably negligible.

**Oto-Laryngologie, avec Applications à la Neurologie.** By F. J. COLLET. Professor of Oto-laryngology in the Faculty of Medicine of Lyons. With 294 illustrations and 4 plates in colour. Paris: Gaston Doin et Cie. 1929. Pp. 1110. Price fr. 170.

PROFESSOR COLLET'S textbook is conceived mainly as an aid to the practice of otolaryngology and the major portion of its thousand pages is concerned with semiology and treatment; what interests the neurologist are the sections devoted to intracranial complications of ear and nose affections, and to various syndromes of palatal, pharyngeal, and laryngeal nerves. As befits its object, the style of writing is somewhat dogmatic and little or no attempt is made to offer complete accounts of differential diagnosis such as would interest the nerve specialist: for example, the palatal palsies of myasthenia are not commented on, palatal nystagmus is given a mere allusion, and while a good description is furnished of the syndromes of Avellis, Jackson, and Tapia the reader is not vouchsafed any account of the circumstances in which these are

likely to be met—at least, not such as would naturally be expected in a neurological treatise. The paragraphs on modern technique in respect of labyrinthine testing are more satisfactory, as are those dealing with disorders of the nervus acousticus and pontocerebellar tumours. Prof. Collet does not provide bibliographical references, but there is a good index—rather a rarity in productions from the French schools.

**Anatomical Studies of the Central Nervous Systems of Dogs without Forebrain or Cerebellum.** By L. RAYMOND MORRISON, M.D. Haarlem: De Erven F. Bohn. 1929. Pp. 109.

THE material on which Dr. Morrison's anatomical studies are founded consisted of the brains of two dogs; one lived 136 days without cerebellum, 83 days without cerebellum, right hemisphere, and right striatum, and 27 days without cerebellum and forebrain (including striatum) on either side. The other animal lived 97 days without left hemisphere, 77 days without right hemisphere, and 38 days without cerebellum. Examination was conducted by serial sections of the formalin-fixed nervous tissues. The many points of anatomical interest established by this research cannot conveniently be summarised, and the original should be consulted by those who desire information. A large number of drawings and photographs reproductions illustrate the author's findings, which bear mainly on pallial connexions with lower centres.

**Ueber einige neuere diagnostische und therapeutische Verfahren in der Neurologie.** By Dr. EUGEN VON THURZÓ, Debreczen, Hungary. With 11 illustrations. Berlin: S. Karger. 1929. Pp. 78. Price Mk. 10.

SEVERAL useful papers on neurological subjects are included in this brochure, of which perhaps that on the question of naturally acquired malaria in syphilitic subjects is the most interesting. The author has had occasion to observe five cases of general paralysis and four of tabes, in each of which the patient had suffered from malaria (tertian or malignant tropical) either during secondaries or a subsequent latent period, yet in none of them did this severe infection prevent the eventual development of metalues. On the other hand, it is stated that the clinical course of these particular cases turned out to be of rather a mild character. In another article the case is described of an eleven-year-old girl suffering from an epileptic psychosis, who for a period of about two months exhibited the phenomena of 'palillogy' and of paligraphy. By the former of these terms the author signifies a condition of what in England would be called iteration or recurring utterance; the child repeated, for example, the words "Ich fürchte mich hier zu bleiben" 10 times, and "Fürchte mich" 28 times, etc. Another case reported in some detail was one of postencephalitic oculogyric crises, taking the form of "à bascule," and seemingly relieved to a considerable extent by suboccipital puncture. Compulsive weeping is mentioned as an apparently new postencephalitic symptom allied to the 'kladzomania' of Benedek.

**Studien über Kretinismus.** By Dr. ARNOLD FLINKER. With an introduction by Prof. Dr. J. WAGNER-JAUREGG. Leipzig and Vienna : Franz Deuticke. 1929. Pp. 122. Price Mk. 10.

A BEAUTIFULLY illustrated study of the cretins of the Bukowina by the late Dr. Arnold Flinker is noteworthy for its patient gleaning of morphological data, based on over 120 examinations, as well as for a critical correlation of the condition as it appears in Austrian and Roumanian valleys with the geographical features of the country. Dr. Flinker enlarges on the association of goitre with cretinism but is careful to point out that each may occur without the other. He is convinced of a connexion between the disease and certain streams (from which drinking water is obtained) in the regions investigated, yet is unable to find any etiological solution. Among his 120 cases we note an occasional reference to nervous symptoms such as weak legs and club-foot, but no description is specifically given of so-called nervous cretinism.

**Études Cliniques sur les Syndromes Moteurs et Réflexes de la Paroi Abdominale et d'Origine Cérébrale.** By Dr. AKE BARKMAN. Uppsala : Almqvist and Wiksell. 1929. Pp. 304. Price not stated.

MANY years ago Professor Pierre Marie of Paris was wont to say that hemiplegia is as valuable as a physiological experiment and that more of cerebral physiology could be learned by its study than from any other morbid cerebral condition. Curiously enough, however, little new study has been made of its inviting semiology, and we therefore welcome Dr. Barkman's advances in respect of trunk disorders produced by cerebral lesions, the more so because he mentions data and reaches conclusions with which the reviewer himself has long been familiar and which he has long taught. Briefly, Dr. Barkman is satisfied that Broadbent's law requires revision, and that unilateral involvement of abdominal musculature is the rule and not the exception in recent hemiplegia. Minute as his clinical researches are, we do not think they cover all the facts, nor has he always been conversant with foreign work on the same subject, since there seems to be no allusion to the late Dr. Beevor's Croonian Lectures of 1904. But the monograph is nevertheless of considerable interest.

**Die Lehre von den Neuronen und vom Neurencytium und ihr heutiger Stand.** By Prof. Dr. HANS HELD. Leipzig. (Fortschritte der Naturwissenschaftlichen Forschung, ed. by Prof. Dr. EMIL ABDERHALDEN : N.F., Hft. 8). With 21 illustrations. Berlin and Leipzig : Urban and Schwarzenberg. 1929. Pp. 44. Price Mk. 5.

IN a clearly written essay the neurologist will find a concise review of the neurone doctrine, a historical survey being followed by a critique of present-day theory and a description of recent advances in histological knowledge. Neurons as genetic and anatomical units have no existence ; the neuroblasts of the embryo develop along plasmatic paths exclusively in an encyctial fashion. The nervous

system cannot be defined as a summation of neurones ; it is a syncytial network throughout. It is constituted by neurocytes, whose fibrillæ pass over more than one, or an actual series, of 'neurones.' The unity of the system is based on this fibrillar continuity.

**Acute Infectious Diseases : a Handbook for Practitioners and Students.**

By J. D. ROLLESTON, M.D., M.R.C.P., London. Second edition. London : Heinemann (Medical Books) Ltd., 1929. Pp. 419. Price 15s. net.

AMONG the chapters of direct neurological interest in Dr. Rolleston's thoroughly modern and eminently informative textbook are those concerned with diphtheria and cerebrospinal fever, while the nervous side of the commoner eruptive fevers (such as measles, scarlatina, typhoid, varicella and smallpox) and of other infections such as whooping-cough and vaccinia, receives ample consideration. In view of present-day attention to infections of the nervous system a book of this kind, written from the standpoint of the fever expert who is also conversant with nervous disease, with useful lists of references, is of real value to the professing neurologist and as such can be warmly recommended to our readers.

**Prescribing Occupational Therapy.** By WILLIAM RUSH DUNTON, JR.

London : Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1929. Pp. 142. Price 10s.

THIS little book gives a concise and clear account of the uses of occupational therapy in various kinds of illness—mental, orthopædic, cardiac, etc. In the mental field the author indicates briefly how a given patient may be helped more by a particular type of occupation than by any other, if the prescribing physician knows sufficiently how to make use of the resources both of the patient and of the hospital. It is obvious that for the proper utilisation of occupational therapy a special provision and organisation of teachers and accommodation in hospital is necessary. In the section on mental diseases, the author is rather too much impressed with the importance of avoiding fatigue in various psychoneurotic conditions ; it would be more rational to impress most of such patients with their emotionally sound physical and mental capacity.

The book contains useful lists of references and will serve as a convenient and succinctly practical guide to the subject.

**Endocrine Disorders.** By Prof. HANS CURSCHMANN, Director of the Medical Clinic, University of Rostock. With an introduction by Dr. F. PRANGE, Assistant at the Clinic. London : H. Milford, Oxford University Press. 1929. Pp. 188. Price 12s. 6d. net.

WRITTEN essentially from the standpoint of the practising clinician, Professor Curschmann's slender but concise and comprehensive volume can be cordially recommended on its merits. Anatomy and physiology are mentioned by way

of brief introduction in respect of each of the ductless glands, and succeeded by well illustrated descriptions of the outstanding and least controversial syndromes singly and in combination. So far as we have been able to note the ground is covered with some pretence to completeness; the progeria of Gilford, however, is not alluded to, nor the retrograde infantilism of Gandy, although their symptomatology receives attention incidentally along other lines. Certain forms of dwarfism are annotated whose connexion with the endocrine system is dubious, but after all it is clinically convenient to make an arrangement of this kind. Disorders of the gonads are well discussed, with short accounts of hermaphroditism, sexual inversion, homosexuality, and rejuvenation. A brief appendix deals sketchily with certain conditions (myasthenia, myopathy, sclerodermia, osteomalacia, etc.) considered by some to have an endocrine basis.

Unpretentious in style and yet eminently clear and readable, this little book provides an excellent introduction to a peculiarly complicated subject.

**Arbeiten aus dem Neurologischen Institute an der Wiener Universität.**

Edited by Prof. Dr. OTTO MARBURG. Vol. xxxi. Leipzig and Vienna : Franz Deuticke. 1929. Pp. 192. Price Mk. 40.

THE latest volume in this well-known series contains a number of papers of neurological importance, mainly by Japanese workers. Dr. Nishii writes on ganglion-cell inclusions in epidemic encephalitis—the 'minute bodies' of Da Fano and Ingleby. An elaborate research by Dr. Deutsch bears on alterations in the corpus geniculatum externum as a sequel to tabetic optic atrophy and throws light on the intimate structure and neural relationships of that body. An interesting case of senile disseminated sclerosis (onset at age of 63, death at 74), with confirmation at necropsy, is reported by Dr. Taga. Changes in the spinal cord are shown by Dr. Kurosawa to accompany osteomalacia. Postencephalitic disorders of respiration seem to be associated, in part at least, with lesions of the dorsal section of the vagal nuclear region, according to Dr. Hazama. A long histopathological study of the choroid plexus of the lateral ventricles, in a number of widely differing morbid states, is contributed by Dr. Auersperg.