

Reviews and Notices of Books.

Epidemic Encephalitis: Report of a Survey by the Matheson Commission. New York: Columbia University Press; London: Oxford University Press. 1929. Pp. 849. Price 15s. net.

THIS Report on the perennial subject of epidemic encephalitis deals solely with three of its chief aspects, viz., etiology, epidemiology, and treatment. In respect of the first of these, a good discussion is given of rival theories of causation, of which three have at one or other time been favoured: (1) the toxic theory; (2) the theory of bacterial origin; (3) that of filtrable virus derivation. A detailed historical survey leads to the conclusion that "the etiological agent of epidemic encephalitis has not yet been definitely demonstrated."

Treatment is summarised in a series of critical paragraphs examining a great number of therapeutic claimants, and Hall's opinion is quoted, apparently with approval: "the verdict on the whole is that, at present, any reliable therapeusis, either for the disease itself or for its many after-results, does not exist."

Epidemiology is handled at considerable length and the data here collected are of much general interest. The Commission seemingly is willing to include Cruchet's cases of 1915 and 1916 notwithstanding Economo's dismissal of them from the category. It is always difficult if not impossible to say when a given epidemic begins, especially when uncertainty exists as to what to include and what to refuse. The Commission has not, we think, considered the point adequately that any 'encephalitis' will occasion symptoms in one or other respect analogous to those of the epidemic variety; hence scrutiny of the literature will reveal a series of clinical or clinicopathological case-links going back indefinitely beyond 1915. Why assert that "the first recorded cases of this epidemic" came from Roumania in the spring of 1915, described as "encéphalite hémorragique avec un diplococque encapsulé"? Here surely is neither pathological nor nosological specificity.

The bibliography is the most remarkable feature of a book whose format and soft black leather cover are unusual for scientific publications. It

contains many thousands of references, fills more than 400 pages, and is excellently arranged and indexed.

The Cerebellum. Vol. VI of the Reports of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease. With 220 illustrations and 24 tables. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1929. Pp. 649.

To this handsomely printed and illustrated volume dealing with recent advances in our knowledge of the cerebellum and its functions more than 30 writers have contributed. A long article on the comparative morphology of the arbor vitæ and folial pattern of the mammalian cerebellum comes from the pen of Dr. H. A. Riley, whose work is based on the examination of some 37 different animals, ranging from the kangaroo to man. Dr. L. Hausman deals with the same subject in respect of vermis, cerebellar nuclei, and vestibular mass. A minute histological study of proprioceptor organs is made by Dr. A. Elwyn. Other morphological papers are devoted to the membranous labyrinth and to the 'lateral line organs.' The physiological and experimental investigation of the cerebellum includes a number of important communications; and cerebellar pathology, localisation, and symptomatology are also examined.

The general level of these manifold researches is high, and the additions they make to cerebellar doctrine rather impressive; but we confess to have read with greatest profit the introductory chapter by Dr. Oliver Strong entitled "Unsolved Problems suggested by Cerebellar Connections and Cerebellar Histology." A book of this character requires an editor or some one else to furnish the reader with a study in synthesis, for the papers are printed without any hint of their united bearing on matters still sub judice. In a word, they are dissociated, if complete in themselves, and their place in the cerebellar setting is not at all made clear. However, for those already to some extent familiar with cerebellar problems the volume will amply repay perusal, and the Association for Research deserves congratulations on the results of their investigations.

The Intracranial Pressure in Health and Disease. Vol. VIII. Proceedings of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Company; London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1929. Pp. 510. Price 27s.

THE 1927 meeting of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease was devoted to the subject of intracranial pressure and the proceedings are now published in a volume to which some forty workers have contributed

and which contains 181 illustrations and 33 tables. Among these articles, which deal with every aspect of a wide question, attention may be directed to those concerned with cerebrospinal fluid pressure adjustment, hydrocephalus, relation of raised intracranial pressure to convulsions, to papilloedema, to visual field defects and brain changes. The increase associated with brain tumours and other expanding lesions is fully investigated, while a series of communications examine the important subject of methods for its reduction.

Taken as a whole, this symposium more than maintains the high standard of some of its predecessors, and should be in the hands of all neurologists who wish to keep abreast of present-day knowledge. The information it contains is derived from widely scattered sources but also includes much of direct personal observation and experiment. There are numerous bibliographical references and a satisfactory index.

Possession, Demoniacal and Other. By T. K. OESTERREICH, Professor at the University of Tübingen. London: Kegan Paul. 1930. Pp. 400. Price 21s. net.

PROFESSOR OESTERREICH has dealt with a fascinating subject in a dispassionate way. With no apparent prejudice or prepossession, he has examined the records, ancient and modern, of cases taken to signify the indwelling of a spirit or demon in the person concerned, and the tale he unfolds is sometimes fantastic, often ludicrous, sometimes almost pathetic. It need scarcely be pointed out that he is compelled, on the evidence, to repudiate the claims of those who see in the phenomena proof of actual possession of the subject by a second, separate, personality; exact analysis shows that "the states of mind apparently belonging to a second ego are really a part of the original individual." Such a conclusion, naturally, will not placate those who approach the problems of possession with preconceived ideas derived from dogma or imagination. The obvious resemblance of many of the recorded 'clinical' symptoms to those of hysteria requires no insistence. The author, however, makes several reservations in this respect, although we do not find ourselves in accord with him. He declares that the diagnosis of hysteria for a case of possession "would only be justified if previous hysterical symptoms had existed"; on the contrary, there is no reason why hysteria should not thus commence its manifestations. He does not appear to have considered sufficiently the occurrence of mono-symptomatic hysteria; it is useless to expect "all the symptoms" (whatever that may mean) of the *grande névrose* in order to make a firm diagnosis, or to discard that explanation of phenomena in the absence of a "typical complex of symptoms." Of the part played by imitation and suggestibility full appreciation is expressed.

In view of the cautious and sane scientific attitude of mind of which the author gives many proofs throughout the pages of this remarkably learned and

richly annotated volume, we confess it is with some surprise that we find in an appendix on parapsychology reliance on the Piper case for the establishment of parapsychic phenomena "with complete certainty," and for the statement that a purely negative position "is frankly no longer possible to-day." He seems to be unaware of the criticisms of, for example, Dr. Ivor Tuckett, whose deliberate conclusion is that "probability is least strained if we explain Mrs. Piper's powers by a combination of chance and skill rather than by telepathy or 'spirit-control.'"

The Internal Secretions of the Ovary. By A. S. PARKES, Ph.D., D.Sc., Beit Memorial Research Fellow, University College, London. With illustrations. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1929. Pp. 242. Price 21s. net.

THE major portion of the monograph by Dr. Parkes is given up to a full discussion of the ovarian hormones, of which it is declared with confidence that two, and probably three, exist. Among these the œstrus-producing hormone takes first place. That it alone should be responsible for the three general functions of the ovary, endocrinologically considered, seems unlikely; these are (1) control of development of accessory organs and secondary sexual characters; (2) control of the œstrus cycle; (3) control of changes occurring during pregnancy. A long account is furnished of methods for the separation and identification of œstrin, and of its effects from the viewpoint of experimental pharmacology and physiology. Reaching the conclusion that the ovary cannot regulate its own periodicity, Dr. Parkes next examines the relations between it and the anterior pituitary, and by a process of exclusion comes to the decision that a cyclic endocrine activity exists in the latter, even if only one substance is produced. The functions of the corpus luteum appear to embrace inhibition of ovulation, sensitization of uterus for implantation of fertilized ova, development of mammary glands, and maintenance of pregnancy.

The author is extremely cautious in his application of physiological data to clinical problems, and remains obviously sceptical in respect of unscientific and irrational employment of ovarian extracts for clinical conditions. A fine bibliography completes a valuable review of present-day knowledge, well arranged and logically set forth.

Die Neuropathologischen Syndrome. By Dr. M. KROLL, Professor and Director of the Neurological Clinic, University of Minsk, White Russia. With 216 illustrations. Berlin: Julius Springer. 1929. Pp. 554. Price Mk. 48.

PROFESSOR KROLL has written a fine book on nervous semiology, beautifully printed and illustrated, and distinguished by its modern outlook.

It follows more or less usual lines in dealing with motor and sensory syndromes, and with topographical descriptions of symptoms referable to different parts of the brain, cord, and peripheral nerves. Syndromes concerned with disorders of cerebral circulation are annotated, as well as those of spinal compression, and rise of intracranial pressure. It is satisfactory to see epilepsy referred to as a syndrome. Angioneurotic and endocrine disorders are not forgotten. All this, and much more, is well written and clearly expressed; controversies are eschewed but difficulties and uncertainties do not fail to be noted.

The work compares favourably with existing text-books on the same subject; on the clinical side its modernity is shown by paragraphs on chronaxy, encephalography, Magnus and de Kleijn reflexes, etc., and its multum in parvo character abundantly illustrated throughout; the pathological aspect however is much more sketchy, though doubtless conforming to the author's intention. Although the numerous references to the work of other writers furnishes proof of his catholicity the reader will regret the complete absence of any bibliographical index.

Der Aufbau der Funktionen in der Hörsphäre.—By Dr. WALTER BORNSTEIN, Frankfurt. Berlin: S. Karger. 1930. Pp. 126. Price Mk. 9.60.

DR. BORNSTEIN has in this brochure given the neurologist an excellent study of the relation of the organ of hearing to the auditory cortex. It discusses eruditely problems of both clinical and scientific interest, to one or two of which allusion may be made.

No separate centres exist in the auditory convolutions for tone qualities ('clearness,' 'volume,' etc.), or for variations in pitch. The fibre-paths leading to these cortical centres are not differentiated for any specific aural functions. When the transverse gyri of Heschl are injured in one or both hemispheres the rest of the auditory cortex assumes their function but in lessened degree; there is a concentric restriction of the auditory field. The sphere of hearing is divisible into two parts; the first is the 'acoustic primitive field,' and the second that for appreciation of the forms of speech and of music. Above these, in a physiological sense, is the frontal lobe—the highest level sensorimotor reflex station. Varieties of amusia and of so-called auditory (sensory) aphasia can be understood best as produced by interruptions of paths between the former and the latter.

The monograph is well written, full of information, and contains a sufficiency of bibliographical references.

Die Psychischen Reaktionsformen. By Dr. HARRY MARCUSE, Berlin.
Berlin: S. Karger. 1929. Pp. 262. Price Mk. 22.

THIS volume deals with the form of psychical reactions, as opposed to or contrasted with their content. Reaction type embraces both form and content. More specifically, by reaction form is meant the psychodynamic proportion between the various (psychical) energies in a given reaction, derived from various stages of development. After discussion of the bearing of these generalities on the psychical constitution of the individual, this latter is considered capable of division into three types: (1) persons with reactions of normal strength—normal persons; (2) those with weak reactions—feeble-minded; (3) those with reactions above normal in strength—persons of talent and genius. According to the author it is permissible to differentiate two kinds of psychical energy, that of psychogenic and that of somatogenic origin, each of which provides its share in the total intensity of the energy; hence the following classification is suggested (where I stands for intensity, P and S for psychogenic and somatogenic respectively):

1. $I = \text{normal}, P < S$ Hysterical subjects.
2. $I = \text{normal}, P > S$ Weakminded.
3. $I < \text{normal}, P > S$ Imbeciles, idiots.
4. $I > \text{normal}, P < S$ Talent, genius.

On these lines the rest of the book is devoted to pathological psychogenic reaction forms (hysteria, etc.), and pathological somatogenic reaction forms (psychoses, paranoia, etc.). Chapters follow on hypnosis, psychotherapy, simulation, dreams, and on the relation between cultural development and reaction form. The whole book is readable and suggestive.

Innere Sekretion und psychische Prozesse. By Dr. W. N. SPERANSKI,
Leningrad. Berlin: S. Karger. 1929. Pp. 150. Price Mk. 12.

THE general thesis of this discursive and rather unconvincing book is that 'Hormono-reflexology' should take the terminological place of 'psychology.' Unimpressed by the hybrid cumbersomeness of the former, the writer contends that it represents the trend of present-day research in biology. The personality of the individual is made up of the sum of the influences of the 'hormone-building' organs; these, combined with blood chemical factors otherwise, affect and determine neural and psychical activity, and the character and intensity of motor conduct. An attempt is made to analyse the effect, at any given moment, of hormones on the evolutionary action of reflex arcs, inclusive of those of the highest level. We are told that in addition to hormones in the ordinary physiological sense the blood contains 'emotiogenic derivatives' which come from these hormones—called therefore 'Em-hormones'; moreover, it also contains 'other substances' (not, so far as we can see, specified), which possess 'emotiogenic properties.' With these and other speculations

for a start, the author proceeds to develop a theory of psychical activity not entirely distinguishable from views recently expressed by Pavlov, according to which, for example, hysteria is a series of reflex reactions determined by em-hormones. Schizophrenia and analogous psychotic states are described as 'emotional ataxias.' It is questionable whether the study of these various affections can be furthered by attributing them to factors the very existence of which is dubious.

Les Ultravirus et les Formes Filtrantes des Microbes. By Dr. P. HAUDUROY, Préparateur in the Faculty of Medicine of Paris. Paris: Masson et Cie. 1929. Pp. 392. Price 40 fr.

THE subject of inframicrobic life and activity being at present one arousing vigorous research and discussion, Dr. Hauduroy's book appears opportunely. It deals seriatim with the affections attributed to such agents in man and the lower animals, not omitting plants, insects, fishes and birds. This conspectus helps admirably to widen the horizon of those whose work or inclinations lead them to consider solely mammalian and human problems. Then follows a highly technical description of filtration methods and results. More interesting chapters for the neurologist are devoted to questions of physiology, immunology, and epidemiology.

In the second part of the book controversial topics dealing with filtrable forms of Koch's bacillus and of spirochætes, inter alia, are approached in a scientific spirit, and points of, it may be, great importance appear to emerge.

The tentative character of some of the author's conclusions bear witness to the way in which he suspends judgment till more light is thrown on his subject, but no one can peruse the work without being impressed by its erudition or being informed by its patiently collected observational and experimental data.

Etudes sur les Maladies Familiales Nerveuses et Dystrophiques. By O. CROUZON, Physician to the Salpêtrière. Paris: Masson et Cie. 1930. Pp. 385. Price 55 fr.

Dr. O. CROUZON has put neurologists in his debt by presenting for their consideration and study a remarkably complete description of familial (as opposed to hereditary) nervous disease not merely in its well-known but also in its rarer and more obscure aspects. Naturally here are to be found accounts of moderately common conditions such as Friedreich's disease, family spastic paraplegia, the muscular dystrophies and a number of others equally definite; yet the interest of rarities which include familial nystagmus, ophthalmoplegia, cleidocranial dysostosis, and so forth is undeniable. Attention is also directed to affections which prove exceptionally to have a familial character (tabes, disseminated sclerosis, Recklinghausen's disease and others). On both clinical

and pathological sides the details supplied seem satisfying descriptively, however elusive the core of the general problem remains. The author makes tentative application of Mendelian laws to the questions raised by these family affections, which are as often atypical as typical, without being able to reach any settled conclusion.

La Maladie de Friedreich. By P. Mollaret, Chef de Clinique at the Salpêtrière, Paris. Paris : A. Legrand. 1929. Pp. 308. Price not stated.

DR. MOLLARET'S attractive monograph on Friedreich's disease is based on study of no less than 21 cases, and presents a very complete review of its purely clinical side, inclusive of its history on the one hand, and the uselessness of therapy on the other. What appeals to us who are familiar with the matter is the disinclination of the author to assert the specificity of the disease, and his obviously reasonable attitude of refusal to separate it categorically from other spinocerebellar or cerebellar heredofamilial affections, in particular the cerebellar heredo-ataxia of Pierre Marie. He suggests use of a comprehensive term—"herédo-dégénération spino-cérébelleuse." We are promised further contributions from him dealing with the pathological side of the subject.

Paralyse Générale ; les Traitements Modernes. By A. SÉZARY and A. BARBÉ, Paris. Paris : G. Doin et Cie. 1930. Pp. 35. Price 8 fr.

PRESENT-DAY developments in the treatment of general paralysis have become so pronounced as to render possible the appearance of books and brochures dealing solely with that subject. For the moment, malarial therapy is most popular, though arsenical methods, e.g. the employment of tryparsamide, are not far behind in vogue. This slender communication deals more especially with the French stovarsol, for which excellent results are claimed, and with malarial technique. A comparison and contrast of the two seem unquestionably to favour the former.

Traitement des Affections Neuro-cutanées. By E. JUSTER, Assistant at the Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris. Paris : Masson et Cie. 1929. Pp. 126. Price 14 fr.

OF interest to the neurologist are the trophoneuroses and neurodermatoses because of their etiological obscurity and degree of intractability. Raynaud's disease, acroparaesthesia, acrodynia, erythromelalgia, sclerodermia, facial hemiatrophy, trophœdema, lipodystrophia, etc., here receive brief description and summary from a therapeutic standpoint.

Psychology. By JOHN H. EWEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer, Surrey Mental Hospital. (Catechism Series). Edinburgh : E. and S. Livingstone. 1929. Pp. 72. Price 1s. 6d.

A SMALL pocket book dealing by the question and answer method with psychology and restricted to a few scores of pages can contain only the mere bones of a corpus doctrinæ and scarcely requires any criticism. It may serve for examination purposes of an elementary kind, and within its self-imposed limits doubtless may be considered to have attained a certain level of accurate exposition. More academic than clinical or practical, the book deals at equal length with Hipp's chronoscope and Freud's theory of dreams, with Mosso's ergograph and language.