Common Symptoms of an Unsound Mind. By C. RUTHERFORD JEFFREY, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.S.E. With a foreword by SIR JAMES CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.S., etc. Cr. 8vo. Pp. xviii. + 268. 1923. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 7s. 6d. net.

THIS is a small handbook ostensibly written for the practitioner.

The author is evidently anxious to dissociate himself from the psychological ideas which are generally understood by the term 'The New Psychology.' There seems to be an attempt to avoid any real understanding of the common symptoms of an unsound mind, and the book is therefore unlikely to benefit or enlighten the general reader. Dr. Jeffrey also appears to disagree with many of the accepted conceptions of clinical insane states. For example, he makes a claim to distinguish simple mania and melancholia from manic-depressive states. A great many loose expressions are used in the volume. For instance, the following sentence expresses the author's conception of the pathological cortical condition in epilepsy: "This abnormal condition of the nerve cells must bring about the state of instability throughout the whole of the central nervous system which will undoubtedly have its effect upon the working of the mental mechanism." The term 'mental mechanism' occurs constantly throughout the book and is nowhere in any way explained.

On page 113 Dr. Jeffrey gives his opinion that the presence of hallucinations in mental illness does not assist us much from the point of view of diagnosis. We cannot agree with this opinion, and we do not believe that many psychiatrists would confirm such a statement. In a book written for the practitioner it seems unusual to find no reference to lumbar puncture and the cerebrospinal fluid as a means to diagnosis. Among other omissions we might mention, we feel bound to call attention to the fact that, whereas the author frequently uses the term 'subconscious mind,' he does not appear to have explained what is meant thereby, and nowhere does he seem to agree with the modern conception of the unconscious.

We have, however, read the book with interest and pleasure; the style is easy, and the chapters are well divided up.

G. W. B. JAMES.

Mnemonic Psychology. By RICHARD SEMON. Translated by BELLA DUFFY. With an introduction by VERNON LEE. Pp. 344. 1923. London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd. 14s. net.

THIS book is translated from the German, and the translator must be congratulated upon the satisfactory completion of a difficult task.

Some books ostensibly dealing with psychology are difficult to read, more difficult to understand, and still more difficult to review. *Mnemonic Psychology* is just such a book. It is divided into two parts, the first part dealing with 'actual sensation,' and the second part with 'mnemonic sensation.' The chief difficulty in the book lies in the nomenclature and the unfamiliar expressions used. They require, even for the psychological reader, a considerable amount of careful study.

The first part of the book deals with 'actual sensation,' and distinguishes synchronous, acolutic, and engraphic effects of stimulation. Synchronous