equally by 'male interests' and 'female'). In any case, 'progress,' 'improvement,' and 'inferiority' are dangerous terms to employ in the discussion of the sexual relationship, where the components are, or, as far as we know, should be, complementary. Societies peopled by healthy and happy individuals have existed, and do exist, wherein the sex relationship may be said to depend upon the 'dominance' and 'privilege' of one or other sex. Economic fluctuations do demonstrably influence greatly the emotional reactions of individuals to 'dominance,' whether sexual or otherwise, and, whereas other forms of dominance may result in pathological repression, it is not established that sex dominance necessarily does so result. Also, "equality in difference" need not necessarily be, as the author suggests, a mere rationalization of the male desire for power; the test of its soundness may well be its acceptance or otherwise by women, and men.

The really intriguing part of this work will be found modestly confined to an appendix of eighteen pages. Herein is demonstrated the unconscious idea of male superiority in the writings of Freud. This analysis-at-a-distance is concise and, so far as it goes, convincing. But, if true, it requires careful elaboration. For, if true, it connotes, as the author points out, "a great tendency" (on the part of Freud) "to ignore the female and relegate her to a position of nothingness and obscurity." The patriarchal influence, if it "ignores the female," etc., must have led inevitably to assertions diametrically opposed to the conscious intentions of Freud and of his disciples. The definition of such a conflict in the mind of so great an authority is not merely interesting. Its bearing, if established, on the question of the validity of the Freudian hypothesis would be decisive.

A. Baldie.


This volume is a compendium indeed, since it embraces chapters on such subjects as the anatomy and structure of the nervous system, its functions and histology, the internal secretions, emotions, instincts, psychoanalytic concepts, and mental diseases. It is evident that the author here endeavours to see the organism as an integrated whole, and he states in his preface that the biological conception of mind is the only sound one. We agree with him, but at the same time we have within these pages an intimate linking up of nervous structure and functions with mental processes which can hardly be satisfactorily defended. He shields himself somewhat by saying: "The study of mentation or the functioning of the brain cells from a scientific aspect... is still in its infancy, and many conclusions are drawn from what is purely hypothetical, but in this work, for the sake of clearness, many of these assumptions have been stated as if they were facts." We doubt whether this conduces to 'clearness.' Though he states that he has largely followed the teachings of William White, this authority especially warns us against the
danger of allowing psychology to gravitate in the direction of a refined
physiology. Taking the brain as the organ of mind has only led hitherto to
sterile results, and both Professor Haldane and Professor W. McDougall have
stated that the nervous and mental worlds cannot be bridged. The latter
rightly says that "we are recognizing more and more that mind has a nature
and a structure and functions of its own which cannot be adequately described
in terms of brain structure and its physical processes." Biogenetic concepts
of the mind in health and disease can be discussed without the introduction
of nerve cells and nerve impulses. Is it really the case that a few pages
relating to embryology, nerve cells, the anatomy of the brain and spinal cord
are going to help the student to an adequate understanding of manic-
 depressive psychosis, paranoia, or hallucinations? The writer's desire to
correlate the mental and physical leads him to this definition of repression:
"By repression is meant an abnormal form of relief of the energy of a nerve
impulse following an intrapsychic conflict, in which the intellectual content
leaves a deep impression on the cells of the associative area of the cortex."
Have we reason for any such assumption? Many instances of like statements
abound. The chapter on treatment is headed "The Treatment of Disorders
of the Nervous System" (!). Dr. Waddelow Smith's only justification for
offering this volume, he says, is "to stimulate students in studying the many
excellent textbooks," and "to give a prop or two to the general practitioner
in forming an opinion of the many cases of psychic origin." These justifica-
tions have their humorous aspects. Notwithstanding the detractions we have
spoken of, there is much of value in the book, though we should hardly like
to put it in the hands of a student without a good deal of guidance. For
rapidly running over many psychiatric points prior to an examination it will
be of use. Mental diseases are only dealt with in a sketchy outline. The
illustrated plates are excellently rendered.

C. S. R.

Report of the Scientific Researches on Venereal Diseases.—Published by
the United States Interdepartmental Social Hygiene Board. The

This pamphlet is a résumé of the results of the scientific researches concerning
venereal diseases that were financed and directed by the U.S.I.S.H.B. during
the years 1918, 1919, 1920 and 1921. It embodies in a short form much useful
information. Of special interest to neurologists are: (1) The details of the
Warthin spirochaete stain applied to paraffin sections, to smears and to films
of cerebrospinal fluid deposit (v. this Journal, iv, 356). (2) The research of
Egerer-Seham and Nixon into the chemistry of normal and syphilitic spinal
fluid. (3) The work of Solomon Thompson and Pfeiffer on the diffusions
of fluids introduced into the cerebrospinal canal. (4) Taft's examination of
the choroid plexus and brain in G.P.I. (v. this Journal, ii, 221, and iii, 178). (5) Re-
searches by Shepardson and Solomon and Klauder on the provoked Wassermann
reaction in blood and in spinal fluid. (6) The investigations of Moore
and Keidel into the question of neurotropism of the spirochaete pallida