the consequence of muscular rigidity, a view in our opinion certainly correct, but they also declare that such muscular rigidity as is invoked by some to account for the bradykinesis is not in fact a symptom of the group of diseases under discussion ("il n'existe donc pas d'hypertonie a proprement parler, encore moins de contracture"—this has reference specially to the syndrome as it is seen in postencephalitic patients). We do not know that neurologists generally will subscribe to this view of the clinical facts, although the difference of opinion is to some extent in reality one of terminology. S. A. K. W.


Unfortunately we have to recognize the fact that the number of psychiatric studies we note in English literature that are of any intrinsic value are few and far between. It is, therefore, with all the greater pleasure and interest that we read the contributions contained in this small volume. The contents illustrate that broad aspect of psychiatric problems which only can lead to progress. There are stimulating papers by Pierce Clarke, on psychopathic children, some therapeutic considerations of periodic mental depressions, and on stealing in juvenile delinquency; by Macfie Campbell on the mechanism of convulsive phenomena and allied symptoms, childhood conflicts and manic-depressive excitement; by Adolf Meyer on objective psychology or psychobiology; as well as others of interest. It is some years since Volume I of these studies was published, and we wish that we might see contributions of this nature more frequently.

C. S. R.


This well-known and well-appreciated text-book is now appearing in a third edition, and in Part II have been included numerous new experiments dealing mainly with the higher mental functions. Though called 'psychology,' the subject-matter is essentially physiological psychology, and all of it might be studied by the neurologist with great advantage to himself, for it is concerned with motion and sensation, audition, vision, equilibrium, etc., as well as with attention, memory, imaging, and so on. It is an admirable little book, and its perusal will help to dissipate some of that loose thinking and 'easy' psychology for which these days are notorious.


It is always a somewhat arduous task to provide a neurological text-book for students and practitioners, since it should be at once comprehensive and
succinct, accurate and yet free of complexities. Following a sound rule of criticism, the reviewer should not complain that he fails to find this and that in the volume before him, but should rather take the book for what it purports to be and decide whether it fulfils its stated ends. In comparatively small compass Professor Fuchs has succeeded in covering practically the whole field of neurology, dealing in the opening chapters with the anatomo-physiology of different parts of the nervous system and following each section with a semiological description which appears to be both accurate and sufficient. In the latter half of the volume various nervous diseases are described at some length. A good index is appended. As a stepping-stone to further and more detailed neurological knowledge this unpretentious ‘Introduction' can be thoroughly recommended.


This slender monograph is a French translation of an article on the diseases of the endocrine system contributed by its author to the Scandinavian Lærebog i intern Medicin, edited by Faber, Petrén and Holst, Copenhagen, 1922. It embodies relatively brief descriptions of the clinical manifestations of disorder of thyroid, testis, ovary, pituitary, parathyroids, suprarenal, pineal, thymus, and pancreas, together with an account of pluriglandular syndromes and of various morbid states assigned to disturbance of growth and metabolism (achondroplasia, mongolism, infantilism, lymphatism, lipodystrophia, osteomalacia, etc.). Its tone is didactic rather than critical; the symptomatology is well set forth, and there are useful clinical illustrations.


These volumes emanate from the school of psychoanalysis directed by Dr. W. Stekel, who, one of the very earliest disciples of Freud, has nevertheless proceeded in recent years along his own lines and, like other well-known ex-Freudians, has found not a little in the strict tenets of the orthodox followers of that psychologist to which he is unable to subscribe. The reader will appreciate the eminent clinical character of these closely printed volumes, which contain a whole series of well worked out cases of a kind with which the neurologist and psychiatrist are frequently confronted; among the subjects dealt with may be enumerated dream analysis, various phobias, sadomasochismus, homosexuality, migraine, the neuroses of pregnancy, impotency, epilepsy, dipsomania, and so forth. It is impracticable to enter at any length into an analysis of such varying topics, but of the clinical usefulness of the accounts herein supplied, sometimes at a somewhat inordinate length, there can be little question. Speaking generally, the therapeutic outcome of psychoanalytical procedures as conducted by the author and his associates would appear to be satisfactory, and, since all are convinced believers in the method, any critical examination of results is perhaps not to be expected. The last article in the second volume is a sort of ‘Apologia'...

If we start by assuming certain premises which we feel assured are true, it is remarkable how we find data which seem to support them. Dr. Hamilton, being impressed with the idea that psychologists need only ignore psychical processes to speak the language of experimental medicine, develops a theory of psychopathology which is somewhat unsatisfactory though it may allure many. Those who adopt the 'behaviorism' theories of Watson will doubtless accept such teachings. What can one say to a writer who states that 'no psychologist has even been able to propose a satisfactory method for arriving at scientifically verifiable interpretations of human behaviour in terms of its psychical determinism'? The whole trend of Freudian psychology is precisely in this direction, though its opponents will doubtless deny that it is scientific. In this volume is seen the attempt to found psychopathology upon neural morphology and physiology, whereas, in our opinion, it has been exactly this aspect which has long hampered its progress. Sherrington, whom the author quotes, has stressed the point that there appears to be an unbridgeable gap between the nervous and mental worlds. To demonstrate his theories Hamilton gives us illustrative cases which comprise more than half the book, but his pathological explanations are only those of conditioned responses to stimuli and provide us with no further insight into the why and wherefore. He speaks of 'urges as to forbidden things which must be denied representation in awareness in the form of consciously held desires,' and yet he says psychical processes do not matter. Throughout Freudian theories are freely used, and we are given over eleven pages of a dissertation on psychoanalysis which he furnishes to a patient who 'expects a discussion of his case in terms of his usually half-baked knowledge of Freudian psychopathology.' Treatment is much on the lines of the explanations of Dubois, but in them many psychoanalytical principles are utilized. The objective psychology of Adolf Meyer leads to the useful conception of nervousness as maladaptation to environmental stress on the part of an integrated organism, but this does not involve the negation of psychical processes and mechanisms which are essential to a scientific understanding. Dr. Hamilton goes too far in one direction, as subjectivists may in another. We regret that we cannot consider that 'this book presages the dawn of a new day for mental medicine,' as Dr. Yerkes hopes. A more broad-minded viewpoint of psychopathology must be taken. The enthusiasm and hard work shown by the author are undoubted, but the fruits thereof are disappointing. A glossary of unfamiliar terms and a bibliography conclude the volume.

C. S. R.