NEUROSYPHILIS: MODERN SYSTEMATIC DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT PRESENTED IN ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVEN CASE HISTORIES. By E. E. SOUTHARD, M.D., and H. C. SOLOMON, M.D. Pp. 496. Boston: W. M. Leonard.

THIS is a splendid and perhaps the best exposition of neurosyphilis so far published. While it has been written primarily for the general practitioner, nevertheless even the most accomplished neurologist can gain a great deal of information from its contents. The method of its presentation makes it particularly attractive to the student, for here the case method is used. The authors illustrate their points entirely from the citation of selected cases, which are well analyzed and logically arranged. From these case presentations classifications are built up, until finally every phase of the problem has been fully presented and discussed. It is possible by this method to adequately present the pathological data which the authors have had so much opportunity of studying. This of course makes the book so much more valuable.

In the treatment they emphasized the importance of the intensive method and state that this is the only method which gives results. They say further: "Some of the results give rise to greater optimism than has prevailed in asylum circles, especially in general paresis. We are confident that no one can now successfully make a differential diagnosis between the paretic and the diffuse non-paretic forms of neurosyphilis in many phases of either disease even with all laboratory refinements. If this be so it is improper not to give the full benefits of modern treatment to all cases in which the diagnosis remains doubtful between the paretic and the diffuse non-paretic forms of neurosyphilis. We ourselves advocate modern treatment, not only in the diffuse, but also in early paretic forms of neurosyphilis." A very valuable chapter was added on neurosyphilis and the war. They emphasize the very rapid development of syphilitic conditions under the strain and stress of war, this being one of the striking medical facts brought out by this great conflict

T. H. W.

THE PRESCRIPTION, THERAPEUTICALLY, GRAMMATICALLY AND HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED. By OTTA A. WALL, Ph.G., M.D., Professor of Materia Medica in the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Fourth and revised edition. Pp. 274. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company.

THIS book, for a long time a favorite among students, has been out of print for some years and its reappearance, thoroughly revised, will be a source of delight to students and to physicians desiring

to check up on careless habits of prescription writing. Of special value and interest is the section on the use of the metric system, and easy methods of acquiring the ability to write correct prescriptions of this kind are thoroughly explained.

Following the full discussion of weights and measures the author takes up the language of the prescription and very practically reviews the essentials of Latin grammar. In the matter of abbreviations he pointedly remarks that grammatical correctness or elegance are subordinate considerations. An error in a prescription which merely annoys a Latin scholar is absolutely insignificant when compared with an error which may lead to the dispensing of the wrong medicine.

The latter part of the book contains an exceedingly interesting history of the prescription which would be enjoyed by every practitioner.

The book is well written, with large type and large pages, and with the exception of some unnecessary repetitions of the subject matter is without criticism.

C. N. S.

BUILDING HUMAN INTELLIGENCE. By DR. ARNOLD LORAND.
Translation by PHILIPP FISCHER. Pp. 451. Philadelphia:
F. A. Davis Company.

THIS is a very interesting but rambling criticism of the common diseases of mankind, with constructive discussion of the method of building up the normal individual so that he can live and think better. The author for many years was a physician at the Baths Carlsbad, and therefore had wide experience with all sorts of internal conditions. He begins by discussing the influence of various factors on the faculty of thinking. This part is divided into nine chapters. In this he discusses the influence of metabolism, nourishment, climate, heredity, etc., making some very interesting and pertinent observations. In the second part he discusses the influence of sexual impulse and the sexual difference upon the intelligence. This part is very sane and well thought out. He next discusses the harmful influence upon the thinking ability and their treatment according to the newer principles. In this he discusses the causes of insanity and its prevention, the influence of alcohol, syphilis, thyroid gland and other diseases. One very interesting phase of his discussion of treatment is that he prescribes thyroid gland for practically every disease, even for the prevention of old age! He next takes up increase of thinking ability by hygienic and therapeutic means. This part is full of sane suggestions. He then discusses the power of thinking and rational thinking, their development particularly in practising the senses. He calls attention to the lack of use of the