BOOK REVIEWS

Brissot, M., et Bourilhet, H. LA DÉMENGE CHEZ LES ÉPILEPTIQUES. [A. Maloine et Fils, Paris.]

This is a small volume, very clearly written, from a strictly clinical view of the mental states observed in epileptics. The authors have perhaps wisely refrained from any doctrinal presentation in view of the extreme complexity of the problem.

They have chosen to describe the progressive and incurable deterioration of intelligence which occurs with certain epileptics after a longer or shorter interval of the disease. In some respects regarding epilepsy as a syndrome, in others as a disease, they have not always clearly distinguished the two aspects, but in general the little volume is remarkably clear and succinct on the clinical side. Any deeper interpretation of what intelligence really is is not touched upon.

Zeihen, Th. ANATOMIE DES CENTRALNERNVENSYSTEMS. ZWEITE ABTHEILUNG. ZWEITER THEIL. MIKROSKOPISCHE ANATOMIE DES GEHIRNS. [Gustav Fischer, Jena. 25 marks.]

Ziehen's justly prized continuation of the anatomy of the central nervous system in Bardleben's monumental contribution to human anatomy here occupies itself with the microscopical anatomy of the hind brain.

Here following his method of describing successive series of cross sections with very excellent microphotographic reproductions, Ziehen follows through the important details of structure of the pons region. Interspersed between the serial sections illuminating illustrative schematic sketches are given of the pathways connecting the nuclear topographies, and many intricate and complex points in the anatomy of this region clearly portrayed. The entire volume of approximately 300 pages is taken up with the discussion of the pontine structures.

Detailed consideration of the many problems involved is out of the question. Ziehen's extensive knowledge and his clear-cut intellectual appreciation of the many possible interpretations, his indefatigable research and broad grasp of all of the available studies, makes this section of his anatomy, like that of his preceding volume published in 1913, of inestimable value. No similar work of so detailed significance and definite authority is available up to the present time. No student of the finer anatomy of the brain can neglect the rich material here offered. [Jelliffe.]