Some kinds have been produced by many observers, and the author gives directions for repeating such experiments as are original with him. At times the author draws from his observations conclusions which his readers will probably not accept. This is especially true of his speculations upon the nature of light, upon spontaneous generation, and upon the cause of the rhythmic character of the heart beat. He is also too ready to explain by simple physicochemical laws alone, some of the most complex of cellular activities. One cannot read the chapter on karyokinesis, however, without feeling that the observations presented must be of great significance in explaining this phenomenon. The illustrations are photographs of the forms obtained in diffusion experiments and of osmotic growths and are most interesting.

As the result of collaboration between the author and the translator this English edition has some advantage over the original French edition.

The book will well repay a careful reading.

J. H. A.

THE PROBLEM OF RACE BETTERMENT. By J. EWING MEARS, M.D., LL.D. Pp. 45. Philadelphia: Wm. J. Dornau.

WITHIN this title are included three papers, published in various medical journals, and the subject matter contains only about 40 pages. The subject, however, is extremely well handled and forcibly written. It is needless to say that everyone will agree with the author that something should be done to diminish the ever-increasing number of idiots, imbeciles, criminals, and epileptics who are constantly born into what seems to be a lawless sphere, at least in so far as this particular subject is concerned. However, since the publication of the first of these papers, laws have been enacted in some of the States to desexualize this class of patients, notably in the State of Indiana. Because of the very nature of our Republic in so far as matters of health are concerned, we are woefully back of the more central types of government, such as Germany, which readily control social questions. It is simply another argument for the establishment of a national Bureau of Health and of a Secretary of Health in the Cabinet of the President.

T. H. W.

LES SYNCINESIES. By LE DOCTEUR G. STROEHLIN, Ancien Interne des Hôpitaux de Paris. Pp. 147. Paris: G. Steinheil, 1911.

THIS is a thesis upon the general subject of associated movements. No new conclusions are presented.

T. H. W.