Book Reviews

COLLECTION DE PSYCHOLOGIE EXPERIMENTALE ET DE METAPHYSIQUE. Director Raymond Meunier, Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16. *Les Folies à Eclipse*, Legrain; *Reéducation physique et psychologie*, Lavrand, and *Les Reves et leur Interpretation*, Meunier and René Masselon. Bloud & Cie., Paris.

Three more of these small volumes have appeared. Dr. Legrain has discussed the fool things that some people do because of an eclipse. He uses the old subconscious symbols, and is not particularly deep in his treatment of the subject. It is readable, however, and has the merit of being short.

Dr. Lavrand's short essay on *Reéducation* contains nothing new, nor is it presented with any novelty.

The much abused subject of dreams and their interpretation is better handled, though hopelessly superficial and markedly behind the times. The authors have shown a very slight acquaintance with the extensive literature of dreams.

JELLIFFE.

ON THE NUCLEI OF THE HUMAN DIENCEPHALON. Ueber die Kerne des menschlichen Diencephalon. E. Malone. *Abhandlungen der königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften vom Jahre 1910*. Berlin.

In this work M., following the studies of Jacobsohn on the nuclei of the human spinal cord and brain stem, has intended to differentiate as primary nuclei of the diencephalon those areas distinguishable from others through certain histological characters which are common to the cells belonging to these areas. It is, therefore, a pure morphological differentiation. The minute morphological deviations have not been borne in mind for this differentiation. The most important characteristics of the cells for this study are the form, the size, the relations of one to the others, and specially the structure. The disposition of the chromatic substance of Nissl and of the cellular pigment is a valuable character. The study is done with small magnifications (from 50 to 250 diam.) in which the most essential structural differences appear clearer. The fine details of the neurofibrils, nucleoli, etc., have not been considered in this work.

Six series of sections through the diencephalon of the adult man were studied. In the metathalamus, M. differentiates two nuclei in the lateral geniculate body, namely: one magno-cellularis, which occupies the medial part and another principalis, which lies on the dorsolateral part; and two others in the medial geniculate body, namely: the nucleus ventralis and the n. dorsalis. The cells of the n. ventralis are larger in size than those of the n. dorsalis. In the epithalamus the pineal gland does not contain cells, which can be considered as nerve cells. Only in the habenula are found two groups of cells from which the ones reunited in the lateral part of the *tenia thalamica* are the only ones which form the real nucleus habenularis. In the thalamus as well as in the hypothalamus the differentiation is much