adjusted by mass method. Yet rightly does the writer claim that this attitude has as yet but little place in the arrangement of schools and their classes. For two special groups of children she speaks, the child who grades below normal in most of his capacities and yet has certain particular abilities, and the child with normal abilities generally who yet is hampered by some special disability.

She points out the lack of facilities in our educational system for recognizing such a state of things or for successfully meeting them. Instead their neglect leads to economic loss through waste of school expenditure upon individuals to whom work is not adjusted and the injury done to such pupils themselves. Besides there is the further economic loss and disturbance resulting from vocational maladjustment which is the sequel to the want of understanding and control of such situations. Many interesting cases are cited which have come to the attention of the author and her colleagues in their psychopathic work with such children. These reveal the result of the inadequacy of current school methods to discover and appreciate such particular abnormalities and provide for them the training which would properly develop each case.

The purpose of the book, however, fails to find full expression. What in reality has the writer offered to remedy the situation? There is indeed suggestion of an understanding which penetrates deeper into complex individual problems and especially emphasis upon the necessity for individual understanding and attention along the special line for each individual case. The difficulties of the problem, however, meet with no practical solution, to which the way is only barely pointed out. The slight reference to the personal work of the Psychopathic Institute does suggest that there individual defects or special abilities upon a defective basis are approached from the intricate affective side. Yet the book gives but little hint of this fuller psychological attitude. The measurements of special abilities and disabilities and their relation to the general standing of the child seem to fall too exclusively under that superficial form of psychology which measures in limited terms of intellectual efficiency, whether sense perceptions or any other form of superficial mental processes. The attempt to incorporate even the consideration of the affective side of the question into such a psychological method of testing, grading and education misses the essential element which after all supplies the guiding principle for each individual training and adjustment, as it throws light upon the nature of the peculiarity in evidence and its relation to the entire make-up. This is the recognition of the energy which lies within each life and informs both the affective and the intellectual nature of the child and produces the external manifestations of them. The book, therefore, presents these problems as just so much more material which demands a thorough awakening to that energetic concept of psychology which can infuse these practical problems with a directing purpose in a deeper understanding of them.

JELLIFFE.

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF VITAL PHENOMENA. By J. F. McClendon, Assistant Professor of Physiology in the University of Minnesota. Princeton University Press, Princeton. 1917.

In this introduction to physical chemistry, especially adapted for students and investigators in the biological and medical sciences, the author has given a running account of the chief physico-chemical phenomena which underlie the vital phenomena of living organisms. He begins with elementary definitions of the chief physical properties of aqueous solutions, then discusses the main reactions accompanying electrolytic dissociation and osmotic pressure. From this he advances to a study of the hydrogen and hydroxyl concentra-

tions and pressures which, with the chief modes of determination of hydrogen ion concentration and the main reactions of buffers and dissociation constants of acids and bases, makes up his fourth chapter. The difficult and intricate formulations relative to surface tension and adsorption make up another chapter. Colloidal properties, enzyme action, cell membrane permeability, osmosis and polarization of cell membranes are then discussed. Interesting chapters are those on the physical properties which permit of and further the cell phenomena of anesthesia, narcosis and cytolysis. While the closing chapters carry the physico-chemical activities which are grouped about muscular contraction, oxidation, heat formation and blood actions to practical and every day conclusions. There is an extremely useful and complete bibliography which renders the book, with its clear and lucid, though elemental discussion of fundamental physico-chemical phenomena, an extremely valuable one to both beginner and investigator.

JELLIFFE.

THE SEX COMPLEX. By W. Blair Bell, B.S., M.D. William Wood and Company, New York.

This is a study of the relationships of the internal secretions to the female characteristics and functions in health and disease.

The author here defends the thesis that the reproductive functions are directed and controlled by all of the organs of internal secretion acting in conjunction rather than by the gonads alone, as formerly thought. He thus posits a definite genital system. Parenthetically it might be remarked that we can see no good reason why the entire body, especially including the psychical side of mankind, might not be included and that Bell is as far from really describing the generative function, in terms of endocrine activity, as were those who only thought of it as gonadal. He has advanced a couple of steps, but why limit life's activities to a purely physico-chemical level even when he would add that all cells have an internal secretion.

Apart from this obvious defect he has made a good case for the inter-relationship of the endocrinous system with the organs of reproduction and has brought together a mass of incontrovertible material dealing with this the somatic side of the problem; material which is gathered together in no other book in English with which we are acquainted. For this the author has rendered a distinct service.

His chapter on sex psychology is extremely interesting and judged from the naïve male attitude most sound, but seen from a larger point of view of the female as as important a part of the problem of reproduction as the male in all attitudes, this chapter is almost funny. Thus we are told that the mental attitude of women after the menopause reverts to a mental type. Apart from not knowing what a mental type is, the dictum is nonsense.

He says that the central motive of a normal woman's existence is the propagation of the species. As if this was not the central motive of all living matter; plant, tadpole, man, male and female as well—and that maleness and femaleness simply represent the mechanism which best accomplishes it. We wish the author did not continually put his cart before his horse in telling what the body did to the mind—as if in the first place they were different and secondly which led which. Is not structuralization simply an instrument provided by experience for energy to act—which when acting at physical or chemical levels does one job and at social levels another? Why say the mental condition is due to the metabolism, any more than the metabolism is due to the mental condition? Why not just as well recognize that they are mutually correlative problems and like maleness and femaleness are inseparable to the large function of living?