

BOOK REVIEWS.

Etiological Relation of the Nose and the Genital Organs. Also a Treatise on Nerve-Physiology. (Über den ursächlichen Zusammenhang von Nase und Geschlechtsorgan. Zugleich ein Beitrag zur Nervenphysiologie.

By WILHELM FLIESS. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Halle, A. S., 1910; Carl Marhold. Pp. 60. Price, M. 1.50.

The biologic, philosophic problems advanced by Fließ in this interesting monograph adapt themselves well to the etiologic relations between the nose and the genital organs. It is interesting reading but of not much practical significance.

Asthma and its Treatment. (Über Asthma and seine Behandlung.)

By M. SAENGER, M. D., Magdeburg. Berlin, 1910; S. Karger, Karlstrasse 16. Pp. 82. Price M. 1.50.

There is such a diversity of opinion concerning asthma, its origin and treatment that the monograph of Saenger appears rather timely.

In recent years many observers have reached the conclusion that the percentage of cases of asthma have a distinct psychic component and that this should be especially emphasized in the treatment of the patient. Saenger has also this opinion of the psychic element in asthma and holds that intense disturbance of respiration may be present without deeper organic changes, due principally to psychic influences.

The essential treatment is to instruct the asthmatic concerning the proper method of breathing, in addition to such general treatment as each case may indicate. The opinions of Saenger are logical and rational in their recommendations and conclusions and the treatment which he advocates is worthy of careful consideration, even though it requires much patience.

The author does not lay as much stress on the relation of nasal obstruction and nasal reflexes to asthma as perhaps most recent writers do, and seems to neglect this feature of therapy. It is a monograph well worthy of careful study.

Text-book on Otology. (Lehrbuch der Ohrenheilkunde).

By VICTOR URBANTSCHITSCH, Professor of Otology at the Vienna University.

Fifth edition, thoroughly revised and enlarged. With 155 illustrations in the text. Berlin and Vienna: Urban and Schwarzenberg, 1910. Pp. 623. Price, 18 M.

The fifth edition of this text-book on otology by the present head of the Vienna school reflects the unusual progress of this specialty in the past decade.

Among the special chapters not usually found in other text-books we should mention especially the achievements of the author in acoustic exercises in the training of the deaf and semi-deaf. The valuable experiences of Urbantschitsch during the past twenty years in this field have been crystallized in an interesting and important chapter.

In another chapter the author emphasizes the importance of X-ray examination of the mastoid for diagnostic purposes; the functional tests of hearing are very extensively considered and all the recent labyrinthine differential tests are minutely described. In fact, the physiology and pathology of