

construction and management; but the hospitals of Germany have rapidly risen in number and importance, and to-day they compare favorably with those of England or of any of the continental countries. What are the chief factors that have contributed to this development? Have the results justified the labor and expense of building up the costly and complex system of hospitals, sanatoria and asylums which exists in Germany to-day? What is the influence upon social hygiene of institutions for the care of the sick and of defectives of every class? These are questions which the author undertakes to answer. His purpose is to outline the present state of hospitals and asylums in Germany, to study the developmental tendencies exhibited by these institutions, and to ascertain how far these tendencies are deserving of encouragement and acceleration. He shows how specialization in medicine has furnished a strong stimulus to the multiplication of hospitals, and traces the effects of private philanthropic motives in this field of social activity; he proceeds next to analyze and classify so much of German legislation as it is proper to consider in this connection,—the workmen's insurance laws above all. From 1888 to 1905 the number of persons treated in institutions maintained by insurance funds in Germany, increased from 13,758 to 56,420, and the cost of maintenance of these patients grew from 2,700,000 marks to more than 14 million marks. The greater part of this money was devoted to the treatment of patients suffering from incipient tuberculosis, and if the official records are to be believed, most of the patients who entered sanatoria under the auspices of the insurance funds were, if not actually cured, at least restored to industrial efficiency. Year by year the percentage of the population which comes under the care of hospitals and sanatoria increases, and social hygiene must be the gainer inasmuch as a very large proportion of those who are thus removed for a time from their normal social surroundings, are sufferers from communicable diseases. Dr. Grotjahn concedes that Germany is still behind England in its methods of caring for contagious cases, since the rule in Germany is to place such patients in separate wards or pavilions of general hospitals, while England provides isolation hospitals rather than isolation wards. The separation of hospital patients into social classes by the establishment of varying rates of payment for hospital accommodations more or less comfortable, is roundly condemned; the author regards this system as one which engenders class hatred and bitterness. The volume is rich in statistical material gathered from official and private sources, and it contains many suggestions of a practical nature bearing upon hospital economy; for example, the suggestion that the hospitals of a given district be banded together for the purpose of obtaining supplies in bulk at wholesale rates. Separate chapters are devoted to convalescent homes, to hospitals for nervous cases, to institutions for the treatment of venereal patients, to maternity hospitals, to asylums for the insane, the epileptic, the blind, and other groups of defectives.

S. S. GOLDWATER (New York).

ELEMENTS DE MEDECINE MENTALE APPLIQUE'S À L'ÉTUDE DU DROIT. Docteur Legrain. *Medecin en Chef des Asiles d'Alienes de la Seine*. Preface de M. Garcon, Professeur de Droit Criminel à la Faculté de Droit del' Université de Paris. Arthur Rousseau, Paris.

With the steadily advancing integration of social forces, and the hoped for supplanting of might by right, of force by law, no one question obtrudes itself with greater demands for a partial solution at least than that of the relation of mental disorder to human responsibility.

Forms of property have changed, the methods of the production of wealth have been modified; the uplift in the working classes makes them more keenly alive to their rights and force. Family relations are modifying and throughout all the avenues of mental operations new combinations are being sought which demand intelligent observation in order to determine their ethical and moral status. To this steady modification of social aims and performance the science and practice of law has endeavored to respond, and the knowledge of the psychiatrist, in his field equally active, becomes more and more important in these newer social integrations.

The work before us represents an intelligent attempt to correlate the fields of law and medicine wherein they have mutual interests, namely, in the sphere of mental responsibility. In the opening lessons the position that law occupies with reference to crime is discussed, a full criticism of the various periods being included, beginning with the period when theological dogmas reigned supreme in determining guilt or innocence; then coming through the idealistic period to the scientific period of Lombroso, his followers and opponents.

In his second and third lectures the Constitution of the Personality is discussed; heredity, the world of sensations and clinical proofs are the subheads, illuminated by a rare analytical and practical faculty. In chapters four, five and six, the evolution of the personality is taken up and in four further chapters the functions of personality gone into. Later chapters discuss dislocation of the personality under the influence of poisons, of mental disorders, hypnotism, etc., while the final chapter concerns itself with dispersion and regression of the personality, with full considerations of the duties of magistrates and physicians, and the subject of attenuated responsibility.

The whole mode of discussion must be read to be appreciated, but it seems to be the most rational and considerate discussion which has come before us.

JELLIFFE.

DIE PROGRESSIVE ALLGEMEINE PARALYSE. Zweite Auflage, Auf Grund der Darstellung von Weiland Professor Dr. R. v. Krafft-Ebing. Neubearbeitet von Professor H. Obersteiner. Alfred Hoelder. Wien und Leipzig, 1908. M. 5.20.

It is highly gratifying to see Professor Obersteiner's revision of Krafft-Ebing book "Die Progressive Allgemeine Paralyse." The entire book has been rewritten, new subject matter added, and its scope much widened. The book, which formerly consisted of 104 pages, is now increased to 194 pages. The whole subject of paresis is exhaustively treated, and is presented in the light of modern neuropsychic researches. The author considers paresis originating mainly from a leutic foundation in a predisposed individual. He puts his views in the following forcible language: "The contents of the cerebro-spinal fluid show the great significance of lues in the etiology of paresis; not only the nearly constant presence of lymphocytosis speaks for this view, but the recent investigations of Wasserman and Plaut make the presence of syphilitic antibodies very probable, although in a great number of these patients other evidences of leutic infection have been wanting."

Again the *rationale* of the modern method of treating paresis lies in the prophylaxis which can be effected by preventing syphilitic infection.

Paresis in the juvenile and senile periods, in women, and Lissauer's