

Book Reviews

THE PITUITARY BODY AND ITS DISORDERS. CLINICAL STATES PRODUCED BY DISORDERS OF THE HYPOPHYSIS CEREBRI. By Harvey Cushing, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery Johns Hopkins University, Professor of Surgery (Elect), Harvard University. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London. \$4.00.

An extended review of this very excellent work is superfluous. Dr. Cushing has admittedly been one of the foremost investigators of the hypophysis and has here presented in a most attractive form not only the results of his own extended researches, but also the findings of other observers. They have been woven together in a volume of unusual merit.

Rarely does one find in a monograph, for such this is, so rich and ideal a mixture of experimental, theoretical and surgically practical material. It is fascinating reading, one wants to read it almost at a sitting. Its completeness prevents such a rash intellectual banquet. One reading, however, urges to another. It is truly a work that fills every requirement and demands its place in the neurologist's and psychiatrist's equipment and his library.

JELLIFFE.

UEBER NEUROREZIDIVE NACH SALVARSAN UND NACH QUECKSILBERBEHANDLUNG. EIN BEITRAG ZUR LEHRE VON DER FRÜHSYPHILIS DES GEHIRNS. Von Dr. J. Benario. J. F. Lehmanns Verlag, Munich. 6 marks.

Of the host of recent works on the treatment of syphilis of the nervous system, especially by salvarsan, this of Benario's stands out as the most complete and most reassuring. It deals preëminently with cerebral and medullary syphilis in its early stages. It shows in a very convincing way that the so-called accidents of salvarsan therapy are for the most part not due to the medication, but are acute advances of the disease syphilis itself. This is particularly true for acute blindness, acute deafness and similar cranial nerve implications. Such acute involvements were very well recognized by the early students of syphilography and the older classics of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries bear witness to these appalling accidents, many of which have disappeared from observation by reason of the advances in treatment. Guarinoni, Horn, Lagneau, Lallemand and others contain indisputable records.

Benario analyzes most of the modern observations and brings them in line with the older studies in a comprehensive and practical manner. The evidence must be read to be appreciated.

JELLIFFE.

CHARACTER UND NERVOSTÄT. Von Dr. Jenő Kollarits, Privat Dozent an der medizinischen Fakultät in Budapest. Julius Springer, Berlin.

This work of 200 and some odd pages contains twelve lectures delivered by the author on the nature of character and of nervousness and the avoidance of nervousness.

He spends much time in telling that nervousness is not a disease but a more or less normal inherited character peculiarity, constituting in its severe grades an hereditary anomaly but not a necessary degeneration of the character.

These are all idle words, for after all the chief point is missed that disease is an arbitrary conception anyhow and he simply denies one hypothesis to create an equally arbitrary one. Then again he tells us that nervousness is a physico-chemically inherited character of the nervous system. The blue of violets and the red of the cockscomb are physico-chemical inherited characters in their respective organisms, but that does not explain cleistogamy in violets nor blanching of the cockscomb in the presence of danger, and to attribute nervousness to physico-chemical characters is elusive if not an illusion of scientific precision.

Why spend so much time in combating Morel's formula of degeneration when it, like other symbols, have served their usefulness and been relegated to the scrap heap of one time useful concepts.

Apart from these minor failures in methods of thinking, the work contains much of interest and of considerable value and is worth reading for his wide survey of many contemporary points of view, although it cannot be said that he has adequately summarized them, or at times understood them.

JELLIFFE.

THE YOUNG MALEFACTOR. A STUDY IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ITS CAUSES AND ITS TREATMENT. By Thomas Travis, Ph.D. With an Introduction by the Hon. Ben B. Lindsay, Judge of the Denver Juvenile Court. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York.

"The mistake has been"—Judge Lindsay is speaking of "Laws"—"that limitations have been put upon intelligence and therefore justice by a code designed merely to describe and regulate conduct, affording no play whatever for the use of that wisdom and discretion which only comes from a knowledge of men and those causes that make or unmake them. The result is our criminal law system is so stuffed with injustice that it is doubtful if its contributions to injustice have not been greater than to justice. I say unhesitatingly that it has been positively so in dealing with the juvenile offender. In the past we have been brutally ignorant upon the subject."

If this book contained nothing else than this short abstract from Judge Lindsay's Introduction it were welcome. It is thrice welcome and should be read by every doctor throughout this country. Justice is symbolically represented with blindfolded eyes—many have thought this meant no partiality—that it really means that the blindest thing in our community is its overburdened and unjust "legal machinery" is fortunately beginning to be appreciated.

This book, we further note, is written by a layman, a doctor of philosophy; some similar works have been written by doctors of medicine—a few by clergymen—but who ever saw one written by a lawyer, a judge, or by the very men whose business it is to understand?

This very class are, in our opinion, the most "brutally ignorant" of almost all of the problems of most importance to their profession and Judge Lindsay's Introduction is a frank admission of the ineptitude, inadequacy, and colossal imbecility of the legal fraternity about their own