

REVIEWS.

Anatomical and Clinical Studies on the Pharyngeal Hypophysis. By Dr. BENEDETTO AGAZZI. Padua, 1916.

THE pharyngeal hypophysis is a small group of cells fairly constantly present in the adult human being in or under the mucous membrane of the vault of the nasopharynx. It represents all that is left of the stalk of the anterior lobe of the pituitary body, which originally develops as an outgrowth from the buccal cavity of the embryo. It is situated just behind the nasal septum, and is only to be found in microscope sections on account of its minute size. The cells are similar to those composing the anterior lobe of the pituitary. It has apparently no function.

Agazzi in this work describes the development and morphology of the pharyngeal hypophysis and the pharyngeal tonsil. An account is given of several experiments undertaken to determine whether the pituitary had any association with adenoidism. The results were on the whole negative. The author gives a very full *résumé* of the literature bearing on the subject.

J. K. Milne Dickie.

The Blind: Their Condition and the Work being Done for Them in the United States. By HARRY BEST, Ph.D. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1919. Pp. 763 + xvii.

THIS book is a useful compendium for those who have to deal with the blind, and contains a considerable number of useful statistics, the compilation of which must have required the expenditure of considerable labour.

There are some interesting notes of comparison between the blind and the deaf. To the author, the latter approach the general population more along economic lines, and the blind more along psychical and social lines. This is true, because the deaf are denied the assistance of language whilst the blind are not. For the same reason, "The deaf would have less poetry, but more bread and butter; fewer artists, but a greater number of artisans." In the United States schools for the deaf appear to have been instituted before those of the blind.

In the census of 1910 there were 584 blind and deaf persons in the United States; in 1900, 491. These are the most difficult to educate since both the chief portals of information from the environment to the brain are closed. Deaf-blind children are, as in England, more frequently educated in schools for the deaf than in those for the blind. Particulars as to causation in the 584 mentioned above are given.

The work is to be recommended to those who require a book of reference upon the subject.

Macleod Yearsley.

The Care of the Nose and Throat. By W. STUART-LOW, F.R.C.S.Eng. Crown 8vo, pp. xvi + 63. 17 figures in the text. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1919. 3s. 6d. net.

That the nose and throat are becoming better recognised as one of the body's most important lines of defence against the invasions of disease is one of the real advances of modern medicine and surgery. Mr. Stuart-Low is taking upon himself the rôle of a medical Lord Roberts in warning the laity of the risks they run by neglect of these channels into their interiors. It is to be hoped that the general public will not disregard his and others' warnings as they did those of the great General.