

Book Reviews

STUDII ANATOMICI E SPERIMENTALI SULLA FISIOPATOLOGIA DELLA GIANDOLA PITUITARIA (*Hypophysis cerebri*). Par Dott. Arnolfo Caselli. Stefano Calderini e Figlio. Reggio nell' Emilia.

This is an interesting and complete monograph on the pituitary, the result of several years original work. The anatomy, ontogenesis, philogenesis and physiology are discussed in three opening chapters. The functional relationship of the hypophysis with other organs is taken up in a fourth, the morphological alterations occurring in man, hypophysis-therapy and hypophy-sectomy in man are the concluding chapters.

A number of interesting facts may be gleaned from this work. Speaking of the development of the hypophysis the author says that it follows the development of the rest of the encephalon, measuring the most in those with the largest brain and the least in those of small brain. The anterior lobe, with its epithelial-like structure presents many analogies with the structure of the thyroid. In the posterior lobe there are no well-marked nervous elements, those which are there found are most elementary in structure or have lost their nervous character.

Complete abolition of the function of the hypophysis produces in the first place a slowing of the respiration and an acceleration of the pulse. There is some slight diminution of the psychical functions, and a disturbance of movement characterized by over extension of the muscles and a spastic tonic-clonic contraction of the limbs without sensation, convulsions, progressive cachexia, coma and death. The cachexia is of the type of an intoxication and is probably due, as is also the diminution in psychical function, to the action in the cerebellum and spinal cord. In many respects the symptoms following extirpation of the hypophysis are similar to those of diabetes.

In animals in which partial development of the pituitary has taken place there is also a retarded development of the entire animal organism.

Many lesions and anomalies of the hypophysis may be found in man without any appreciable alteration in the general health and acromegaly is probably due to a modification of the function of the gland, often associated with its hypertrophy, although not necessarily so. Atrophy of the gland is a nearly constant accompaniment of cretinism.

The author concludes that this organ is a necessary one to the human economy and that it has a specific internal secretion, a modification of which brings about grave alterations in metabolism.

JELLIFFE.

TRAITE DE THERAPEUTIQUE DES MALADIES MENTALES ET NERVEUSE.

Hygiene et prophylaxie. Par Paul Garnier, Médecin en Chef de l'infirmerie spéciale du depot, et Paul Cololian, Ancien interne des asiles de la seine. 8vo., 496 pages, 7 francs. J. B. Baillière et fils, Paris.

There are numerous didactic treatises on nervous and mental dis-

eases but for the most part, excepting the memorable work of Collins, they devote themselves to etiology, pathology, and pass treatment by with scanty attention. It is a good sign of the times that special work on treatment should appear.

The plan of the work is very simple. After a short and yet detailed account of the historical aspects of neuroses and psychoses, a complete analysis of the construction of a modern institution for the treatment of the insane is offered and a free discussion is made of the principles of non restraint, and the open door systems.

An interesting discussion presents the necessary variations which should exist in the type of building to accommodate three types of the insane,—the ordinary insane, the criminal insane and the prison. Institutions for the treatment of alcoholics, epileptics, hysterical individuals, idiots and for degenerates are described and their needs considered. Apart from the features of the habitat for patients, rules for general diet and regimen are carefully and fully considered.

From the more strictly pharmacotherapy point of view there are exhaustive chapters on sedatives, hypnotics, narcotics, nervines, and full discussions of the various physical agencies of hydrotherapy, actinotherapy, massage and electrotherapy.

Following the general discussion of the various remedies, special chapters then consider *in extenso* the treatment of the different neuroses and psychoses. A final chapter is offered on etiology and prophylaxis. Considered from all points of view the work is an excellent one and is worthy of special commendation. JELLIFFE.

ATLAS AND EPITOME OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND ITS DISEASES. By Professor Dr. Chr. Jakob, of Erlangen. From the Second Revised German Edition. Edited by Edward D. Fisher, M.D., Professor of Diseases of the Nervous System, University and Bellevue Medical College, New York. W. B. Saunders & Co., Philadelphia and London, 1901. Cloth, \$3.50 net.

In reviewing, in a former issue, this excellent manual, we pointed out its many points of practical utility. The present edition varies little from that formerly presented by another publisher, save that its style as a reflection of the publisher's art shows a distinct improvement. Better paper and more careful typographical supervision make it a more pleasing product. As a comprehensive manual of the anatomy, normal and pathological, we know of no work which gives as much material in so condensed and compact a form. It is a worthy representation of the Saunder's Hand Atlases. S.