

PRACTICAL HORMONE THERAPY. By H. R. H. Harrower. Ballière, Tindall & Cox, London; Paul B. Hoeber, New York.

The author of this book lays no claim to originality. In fact he states that his personal experience with hormone bearing preparations has been that of the average physician. Being however convinced that the subject of hormone therapy is deserving of greater study and application than it has hitherto received at the hands of the general practitioner, he set himself to the task of collating the facts already known and the theories advanced upon the subject. He has not adopted the rôle of critic, but has provided the reader with a résumé of what has been written already on the subject of hormone therapy the rise and development of which he eulogizes as a great achievement. A bibliography at the end of each chapter, together with a glossary of terms and a list of important works on internal secretions at the end of the book, add to the usefulness of what Biedl, in his preface, aptly terms a "guide" to the student in this field of therapeutics.

JELLIFFE

OBJECTIVE PSYCHOLOGIE, ODER PSYCHO-REFLEXOLOGIE. Die Lehre von den Associationsreflexen. Von W. von Bechterew. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig.

This extremely interesting and noteworthy book is perhaps the first and most ambitious attempt to present a strictly mechanistic psychology. The readers of Bechterew's Physiology of the Nervous System will see in this work of nearly 500 pages the logical outcome of his physiological studies carried into the realm of the psyche. He would correlate the psychical processes with their mechanisms and then give us a true "Reflexology" or objective psychology from the absolutely mechanistic viewpoint. No one could have attempted it without a broad foundation of anatomical knowledge of the reflex activities of the nervous system, of which knowledge Bechterew has drunk deeply and copiously.

The general divisions of the book give very little inkling of the many suggestive features of it. He first speaks of the foundations of psycho-reflexology, and then in 170 pages discusses general principles, and the rest of the book is made up of his special portion. Reflexes and automatisms are first taken up. He arranges most of what are called instinctive actions,—as nutritional impulses, sexual instinct, instinct of motherhood, instinct of self-preservation, social instinct.

Concentrating or integrating reflexes are then discussed. These are followed by symbolic reflexes, under which heading he arranges speech in its articulatory and graphic forms, as well as the general factors of judgment, taste, various estimates of sensations, etc. Personal reflexes are finally taken up.

Probably no more valuable problem could be attempted than the one here embodied. It is highly stimulating, in spite of an extremely diffuse style; many quotations which are not worked over, but apparently thrown in helter skelter, giving the work a certain tendency to look like a piece of patchwork, but withal a very frank and admirable attempt at the setting forth of a series of problems of enduring interest.

JELLIFFE