

of these which are reported upon in this monograph, No. 5 of the *Abhandlungen aus dem Gebiet der Kriminopsychologie*, edited by Lilienthal, Schott and Wilmanns. Wilmanns, Nissl's successor in psychiatry at Heidelberg, who has given such excellent studies of the Tramp and the Psychopathies, is the stimulus to the present study, since his general outlines of classification of Psychopathic Types is followed.

The monograph deals first with the homes and parents of the drinkers; then the occupations, their own family life, the children, food conditions, housing of those studied.

Statistics as to the involvements of the social machinery in its various branches through such chronic alcoholics are then discussed.

The character make-up grouping of the different individuals then follows, and a later summary of the general therapeutic results of the different social services is offered. An interesting statistical analysis of the relationships of age incidence of the drinkers to the severity, the prognosis, the gravity of social misfitting, etc., then follows. At least 107 of the 151 individuals belonged in different definitely psychopathic groups. Of the 151, 108 had come before various officers of the law, and a detailed account of the criminal acts is given. The author rarely allows himself any generalizations, but from his many sided attack upon the criminal aspect of the problem he states that "*alcoholism alone is not responsible for the criminality; it is rather the psychopathic personality which lies behind it that causes both the chronic alcoholism and the criminality.*" This conclusion is in line with most modern neuropsychiatric teaching that alcoholism is a symptom of a disordered character make-up rather than a cause of it.

The rest of the monograph, 40 of its 120 pages, is taken up with the careful histories of the patients studied. These are given in abridged form; the many details, the author stating, being preserved in mss. in the library of the Heidelberg University, since the cost of printing and paper does not justify their complete recording.

This is a model type of investigation of this class of problem from the conscious levels, and all interested in this foremost of social problems can read it with pleasure and profit.

**Guillaume, A. C.** LE SYMPATHIQUE ET LES SYSTÈMES ASSOCIÉS. Deuxième Edition. [Masson et Cie, 1921.]

We have had occasion to speak encouragingly of the first edition of this work, almost the first attempt at a monograph on the vegetative nervous system by a French author. Although it was somewhat sketchy its foundations were excellent and it is a pleasure to note that neuropsychiatric interest is so keen on the neurological mechanisms which underlie the metabolic activities of all the organs of the body, in French reading countries at least, that a second edition was called for within a year of the appearance of the first.

This has given the author an opportunity to present a volume worthy of the subject and more truly indicative of his own grasp upon the subject.

It is an excellent performance and is to be specially commended to all students of medicine who wish to get at a biological view of the vegetative nervous system.

The reviewer still uses the term vegetative although the author rejects it on the puerile ground, in which he apparently follows Langley, that the word vegetative applies only to plant life. Why not reject sympathetic because it refers to "sympathies"? Vegetative really means referring to growth and nutrition and this is what the vegetative system regulates.

Guillaume states this, and uses the phrase "organo-végétative," even though Langley denies that what he prefers to call the autonomic system has nothing to do with metabolism. Aside from such a minor verbal obscurity the author treats of his "sympathetic system" as a vegetative system, coördinating the body as a whole in its metabolic activities.

We have only one criticism of this really excellent work: that is its failure to duly emphasize the great importance and close relationships which exist between the vegetative system and the symbolic activities of the human being as manifested in the struggle for individual existence and phyletic evolution.

It is an extremely readable and suggestive volume and we feel assured that a third edition will be needed, which, should it show as much evolution as has this edition from the first, promises to be a masterpiece.

**Pilcz, Alexander.** LEHRBUCH DER SPEZIELLEN PSYCHIATRIE, SECHSTE VERBESSERTE AUFLAGE. [Franz Deuticke, Leipzig and Wien.]

This excellent textbook has found enduring favor since its first edition in 1904. In many respects it remains practically as it was in its third or prewar stage. The author says that the war brought few really novel ideas, but it did deepen and widen the psychiatric grasp upon the hosts of problems which neuropsychiatry had been working upon in the past few decades. The importance of unconscious factors was much more clearly comprehended and elucidated.

Pilcz groups his material as follows: I. Acute Functional Psychoses, including (a) Melancholia, (b) Mania, (c) Amentia and acute delirium. II. Chronic Functional Psychoses: (a) Paranoia, (b) Periodic Psychoses. III. Alcoholic Psychoses. IV. Dementing Processes: (a) Paresis, (b) Senile Dementia, (c) Arteriosclerotic Dementia, (d) Psychoses with Brain Disease, (e) Dementia Precox. V. Thyroid Psychoses. VI. Psychoses associated with Major Neuroses: (a) Epileptic and Hysterical Psychoses. VII. Congenital Defect States, and XIII, Psycho-inferiority.

Excellent descriptive accounts enlarge upon these formulations. They are concise, yet full enough to do justice to the subject for the purpose for which the book is written. In most respects the general attitude is Kraepelian, although Pilcz does not sink his individuality behind an imitative following of the Munich school. At the same time we find a little too marked an insistence upon "diseases" *per se*.