

cluding the marked turning points in his creative career, and so understandingly have his weaknesses been pointed out that the book speaks almost with reproach for the world's careless disregard of psychological understanding for the guidance of individual lives particularly in childhood.

The study reveals a man of unmistakable talents, further stimulated to their exercise by the cherished ideal of a father of superior tastes who had died early in the boy's life. The boy grew to manhood in a marked dependence upon his mother, and this even in financial support continued on into his adult years. This dependence is evident in the ill success of his love life throughout his years and has formed indirectly much of the theme of his writings. The psychic inhibition which accompanied it, and which is marked by other infantile traits, was instrumental in determining and at times altering his career. In his work for example there is much evidence of an exaggerated peeping interest in the human body which earlier had turned for expression to the painting of the human form. In this earlier field the inhibitions seemed to have interfered and turned him aside to landscape painting, where the instinct takes a more concealed form in a diffused and symbolic exercise. Even this gives place largely to the painting of word pictures and the more indirect indulgence of the impulse in the experiences of his fictitious characters.

It is a study of most profitable interest thus to follow out the development of the traits which are determined early in the life of the writer. Some of them attain that expression which frees them from burdening his life and make for him the elements of his ability in art and literary work. With some he has only partially succeeded in mastery of them and they either impair his life's happiness or they cross his artistic pathway and turn it in a new direction. At other times again they give a peculiar personal emphasis to his work with a certain exaggeration of the strongly insistent infantile factors. It is especially in the novel "Grüner Heinrich" that this is most in evidence. This is not intentionally an autobiographic work, but is eloquent with the revelations of the poet's unconscious life and even with the external experiences which his unconscious determined for him.

**Mott, Frederick W.** ARCHIVES OF NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY FROM THE PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF THE LONDON COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITALS, MAUDSLEY HOSPITAL, DENMARK HILL. Vol. VII, 1918. Printed for the London County Council. P. S. King and Son, Ltd.

Each one of the papers which constitute this report might be the subject of separate comment. The excellence of their preparation, dealing as they do in minute detail with the investigations in the most recent lines of pathology in nervous and mental diseases, reveals the fact that the press of war work has been only an incentive to general interest in this branch as in all other branches of medicine. Dr. Mott's presidential address, which forms the opening chapter of

the collected report, deals with the relation of the sexual and ductless glands to mental disease. Special investigation had been made upon the ovaries in mental disease, in which the study seemed to confirm the fact that the female reproductive power is at least diminished or even absolutely cut off in actual mental disease. These investigations were necessarily interfered with before they were made as definite as could have been desired, but they as well as the other investigations made denote the trend of medical interest and point to the fields that lie open for further active interest.

Special attention has also been given to the study of hypothyroidism in cases of insanity both in male and female. The average weight of the thyroid gland in both sexes is generally smaller than in healthy subjects although variations occur. These variations are most marked in the female before and after the climacterium. The other ductless glands were subjected to the same test of weight as well as to histological examination. In a special study of the glands in dementia præcox it was found that there was a tendency to hypofunction of the thyroid gland in the male and to hyperfunction in the female. Striking changes manifested themselves in the sexual glands, both sexes showing diminution of the reproduction function.

Dr. Mott himself has also contributed a detailed study on the pathology of venereal disease. Interesting investigations have also been made as to the convolucional patterns in the brains of related individuals. Such a study, as Dr. Sano, the investigator has stated, "is of special value in the determination of the transitions from one brain pattern to another, both as a whole and in detail. A knowledge of the normal transitions from one convolucional pattern to another may be of use in the consideration of the convolucional pattern in pathological conditions".

A large section of the report is devoted to strictly war neurology through an important contribution by Dr. Mott upon the punctiform hemorrhages which occurred in the brain as a result of gas poisoning and a paper by the same author reporting the microscopic findings in two brains of the effect of commotio cerebri without visible external injury. The Chadwick lecture by the same physician presents the subject of mental hygiene to be applied to cases of shell shock. The entire contents of the book form leading contributions upon these various phases of the pathology and the therapeutic responsibility in regard to nervous and mental diseases.

**Jansen, Murk.** DE PHYSIOLOGISCHE SKOLIOSE EN HAAR OORZAAK.  
Leiden, E. J. Brill, Publisher.

The writer of this book seeks to confirm assertions that he has made before in regard to the existence of a physiological scoliosis, a normal one it might be called. He shows that the spinal column reveals a tendency to bend in three sidewise curves in its dorsal portion. The uppermost and lowest curves tend toward the left and the middle one toward the right. The tendency to curvature is greatest in the lowest curve, less in the middle one and least in the upper portion, the region of the breast. While these natural or