

arthritis which produced it. From the medical point of view it is the arthritic state which is the important and elusive condition.

In seeking to define *mental alienation* and *insanity*, Dr. de Fursac suggests that the former term should be applied to all cases in which the mental disorders present an anti-social character, whereas the latter should be restricted to cases in which the mental disorder is an expression of an active pathological process. Thus an idiot or a dement is generally alienated but not insane. It is just this method of dealing with psychiatry which leaves it with a discussion of symptoms and imports into the discussion "anti-social" considerations. It is the insanity, the mental disorder, the arthritis which is our concern. The anti-social result is rather a question of medico-legal importance.

In the same way "manic-depressive insanity" is set up as a clinical entity, without the slightest recognition of English opinion, which long ago founded upon the three facts of depression, excitement and dementia constantly observed and recorded, and, similarly, "adolescent insanity" is disregarded and replaced with the brand-new "dementia præcox."

Although Chapter 8 is headed "Dementia Præcox," however, Dr. de Fursac proceeds to say that the term is not very fortunate, for *dementia* designates a general and profound intellectual enfeeblement whereas this assumed entity presents an enfeeblement which is often slight and habitually selective; and further, that the disease does not as a rule run a rapid course, nor is it exclusively a disease of early life. He holds that the specific element lies exclusively in the sum of the psychical changes, which are generally permanent, and that it is a disease of auto-intoxication, as Kraepelin has suggested, possibly a disorder of the genital organs. Dr. Rosanoff, quoting Professor Adolf Meyer, seems to deny any real pathology, and would regard any such assumption as purely gratuitous, but indicates that it is the result of vicious or abnormal mental habits. That, of course, leaves us without explanation of the inception of these habits.

We are also disappointed on reading of psycho-therapy, which Dr. Rosanoff regards as an important therapeutic measure, the only means of directly combating a false idea, a baseless fear, or a morbid tendency. After this promising introduction it follows that no full discussion of methods or technique can be given, and the reader is referred to *Dubois* for particulars.

We note *drool* as an equivalent for *dribble* on page 311, and have an impression that Thoreau so used the word. Perhaps it is more widely used in America than in this country.

On the whole, we prefer Kraepelin at first hand.

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*The Criminal Responsibility of Lunatics: a Study in Comparative Law.*

By HEINRICH OPPENHEIMER, LL.D., M.D. London: Sweet and Maxwell, Ltd., 1909. 8vo. Pp. 275. Price 10s. 6d.

This important book has gained the approval of the University of London when submitted as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Laws. We could wish that the author had been more of a Doctor of Medicine.

when he entitled his work *The Criminal Responsibility of Lunatics*. We have long endeavoured to eliminate that term from parliamentary and legal practice. However, it is a great gain to have a full study of the law at the hands of one who is versed in the lore of both professions. It is from this standpoint that the author proceeds to develop his most important contribution to a difficult subject, and we commend the result to our readers. Dr. Oppenheimer recognises the differences which have so long subsisted between lawyers and doctors, and the many endeavours which have been made to compose their contentions. It is only when doctors are face to face with the difficulty of proposing amendments in the law that cannot be seriously attacked by lawyers conversant with the practice of the Courts that they recoil from the task.

The author quotes with approval the saying of Chief Justice Parker, of New Hampshire, to the effect that they might as well hang a beast for homicide as condemn a human being who is deprived of reason. On the other hand Dr. Oppenheimer concludes that an independent and more concrete test than the subsumption of a criminal under the loose term of "*insane*" is indispensable to sound jurisprudence. He regards it as sufficient for the expert to show that the accused did not possess sufficient intelligence to understand what he was doing, not sufficient self-control to restrain his impulses, not that freedom of will to enable him to regulate his conduct in a rational manner; it is then for the Court to draw therefrom the inference in relation to the deed as charged.

In his acute and comprehensive study of the subject comparative law enlightens the discussion, and it is most important for us to study the French penal code and German opinion as presented by Dr. Oppenheimer. He has not omitted to give a long list of the principal works consulted, but we much regret that no index is appended to the book. A synopsis of contents would have been acceptable, but in such a far-reaching production as this the want of a full index is deeply felt. It is eminently a book for reference and consultation, and we hope that this omission will be made good in a new edition. The wide and exact reading demanded by work of this kind also would be greatly enhanced in value by references to the authors and authorities quoted so that they could be easily traced.

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- (1) *The Psychology of Dementia Praecox*. By Dr. C. G. JUNG, translated by F. PETERSON and A. A. BRILL. New York, 1909. Pp. 153, 8vo.
  - (2) *Selected Papers on Hysteria and other Psycho-neuroses*. By Professor S. FREUD, translated by A. A. BRILL. New York, 1909. Pp. 200, 8vo.

These two works form Nos. 3 and 4 of the Nervous and Mental Disease Monograph Series, now being published in America under the editorship of Dr. Jelliffe. Both are designed to introduce the English reader to the school of psychology founded by Professor Freud, of Vienna.

The psychological work of Freud commenced with the now classical