

The book will be of particular value to those who are about to take up work in the Juvenile Courts. It also can be wholeheartedly recommended to doctors whose work is concerned with juvenile delinquency, and to others who wish to be introduced to the subject by a reliable writer. W. NORWOOD EAST.

**L'Electro-Choc et la Psycho-Physiologie.** By JEAN DELAY. Published by Masson et Cie, Paris, 1946. Pp. 169. 230 francs.

This book describes in some detail certain biochemical and physiological investigations conducted by the author and his collaborators on patients undergoing electro-shock treatment.

He has endeavoured to demonstrate physiological phenomena due to electrically-induced convulsions, and from his results to construct a theory for the mechanism of cure.

The number of patients studied is not large, and being divided among various psychoses, the conclusions can only be regarded as tentative.

The author suggests that disturbances in the hypothalamus are causative of various psychoses, and attributes the beneficial effect of electro-shock treatment to its influence on the hypothalamic and vegetative systems.

The book is of value chiefly for the lines of thought it suggests, and should be studied by those undertaking research in convulsive therapy.

The bibliography is extensive, and demonstrates the lively research in psychiatric problems that was conducted in France even under German occupation.

R. E. HEMPHILL.