

so, though the many conflicting views and uncertainties which distinguish this subject may be a justification.

In discussing the diagnosis of general paralysis, mention is made of the presence of a leucocytosis in the cerebro-spinal fluid, but it is surprising to have to turn to the chapter on pathology to find any mention of the Wassermann reaction in connection with this disease.

The history of insanity and its incidences is well written, and forms an excellent opening chapter; and the concluding chapters on prognosis, legal relations of insanity, and general treatment are especially good.

Dr. Cole is to be congratulated on producing a plain and very readable book, which fulfils the object for which it was written, and will be of value as an introduction to the study of psychiatry and of special service to the student and the busy practitioner.

London Public Health Administration. Pp. 59. Fcp. 8vo. Price 2s. 6d. net. London: Longmans, Green & Co.

How to Diagnose Smallpox. Pp. 104, with 11 Illustrations. Demy 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. net. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

The Administrative Control of Smallpox. Pp. 86. Demy 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. net. London: Longmans, Green & Co.

All by W. McC. WANKLYN, B.A. Cantab., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

It is unusual to notice publications such as these, so foreign to psychiatry, in the Journal, but in this case there are circumstances which warrant a departure from established custom.

In the first place, the writer of this notice passed through an extremely anxious time when medical officer in an asylum during the outbreak of smallpox in London some twelve years ago. *How to Diagnose Smallpox*, if it had then been available, would have saved him weeks of worry, and would have been invaluable in dealing with some difficult and atypical cases which actually occurred.

In the second place, Dr. Wanklyn, prior to joining the London County Public Health Service, was a medical officer at Bexley, and afterwards at the Ewell Colony, Epsom, and is thus not a stranger to psychiatry. It was a distinct loss to lunacy and a gain to public health when he transferred his services from one to the other. It is rare to find one who so combines intense accuracy, deep powers of observation, and fidelity of description, with a lucidity and simplicity of expression which is apparent to anybody who reads these books without the added personal knowledge of the author.

It might also be mentioned that Dr. Wanklyn and his then colleague, by their skill, knowledge, and devotion displayed in a unique degree during the smallpox outbreak in London, did a great public service, and saved London from the spread of a dreadful scourge.

It is thus with every pleasure that we draw our readers' attention to these publications.

The first is a very useful summary showing the principal authorities, with the origin, service, and powers connected with public health administration. It is a handy volume, which, although of most use to

a London practitioner, could well find a place on the desks of all who have to do with public health and local government.

The other two books on smallpox should be in the library of every medical man. They are absolutely reliable in point of fact, and there is no greater authority on the subject than Dr. Wanklyn. It will be a great advantage to have at hand such sure guides when this most difficult of all diseases makes its next appearance, as it inevitably will do unless vaccination again becomes compulsory.

Part III.—Epitome.

Progress of Psychiatry during 1913.

FRANCE.

By Dr. RENÉ SEMELAIGNE.

Psychiatry has advanced with such rapidity that Dr. Régis, Professor of Mental Diseases in the Faculté de Bordeaux, determined to publish a fifth edition of his well-known *Précis de Psychiatrie*. The book seems to be almost a new one. Among the principal interpolations we find remarks concerning eugenics in psychiatry, the psycho-analytic theory of Freud, disorders and deliria of imagination, syndromata of Ganser, manic-depressive insanity, dementia præcox, mental confusion, systematised psychoses, amaurotic family idiocy, presbyophrenic dementia, chronic alcoholic psychoses, *endocriniennes* psychoses, pathological anatomy and treatment of general paralysis, lunacy law, penal responsibility, provision for lunatics in France and colonies, appointment of medical officers in asylums, divorce and lunacy, criminal lunatics, testamentary capacity, models of medico-legal statements, etc.

Exo-toxic psychoses constitute a new chapter, and find place for the first time in France in such a publication. The author divides such disorders according to the cause—intoxications, infections, and parasitoses. The first group relates to psychical troubles resulting from insolation and abuse of opium, or cannabis indica. In tropical countries a continued solar action causes nervous disorders more or less severe—tropical neurasthenia, *soudanite*, etc. Such disorders affect neuropathic and predisposed people mostly, or those debilitated by chronic paludism, diarrhœa, dysentery, syphilis, a previous attack, but principally by alcohol, opium, or morphia. So the psychical influence of hot climates conduces to impulsiveness, cruelty, etc. Consequently it seems to be best to send to the colonies people free from any mental defect. Those who, being hereditarily or casually predisposed, settle in colonies and become intoxicated, court mental ruin.

But the genuine psychoses of insolation are states of mental confusion, and show the symptoms of all the intoxications—acute hallucinatory delirium, amnesic mental confusion, paralytic syndrome, etc.