

of a treatise such as the one under review. Such a work is a fitting epilogue to a distinguished career, but although the author is now retired and unfortunately blind, we would hope that in his case it will not be an epilogue, but rather a prologue, if it were not for the fact that this is not the first of Sir Henry Theobald's writing. We trust, however, that he will be spared for years to come, and that this is not the last occasion we will feel called upon to review something from his pen.

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*An Introduction to the Study of Mental Disorders.* By FRANCIS M. BARNES, jun., M.A., M.D. London: Henry Kimpton, 1923. 2nd edition. Royal 8vo. Pp. vii + 295. Price 18s.

The author does what he sets out to do, very thoroughly, in the pages of this book. The student is not merely introduced to the study of mental disorders as ordinarily taught, but he is given that breadth of view of the subject which is all-important if the knowledge so acquired is to be used to the best advantage.

After chapters devoted to historical matters and methods of study, first place is rightly given to mental hygiene and social psychology, and psychology in relation to medical practice. These when taken together form the platform from which the intending medical practitioner should be taught psychology and mental diseases.

The diagnosis, care, treatment and cure of individual mental disorders is no doubt an important part of medical practice, but the prevention of such disorders and allied conditions and the encouragement and preservation of sound mental health are matters of even greater importance. That these are the ultimate aims and objects of psychological medicine cannot be too firmly impressed on those entering upon the study of this subject. As Dr. Barnes aptly says, "In mental hygiene, as elsewhere in medicine, the greatest good is looked for in prevention."

The other outstanding feature of this book is the remarkable lucidity of the author when dealing with psychological processes, such as consciousness, memory, association and orientation, which often present difficulties to the ordinary student. Indeed, some students never really grasp their meaning. To the latter especially Dr. Barnes's treatment of them will be a revelation.

Under "Treatment" we are glad to see that occupational therapy and industrial mental hygiene are given a prominent position.

Part II of the book deals with the principal forms of mental disorder quite adequately for the author's purposes.

Our view is that this is a most useful book to all students of psychiatry. It is also a work that can be commended to mental hygiene and social workers in every field.

The original edition appeared in 1918. The present edition combines also Dr. Barnes's *Notes on Mental Diseases*, 1919, 3rd edition, 1920.

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