

A Bibliography of Sex Rites and Customs. By ROGER GOODLAND.
London: Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1931. Demy 4to. Pp. 752.
Price £3 3s.

This bibliography is a treasure-house of information and references on sex rites and customs, and will fill a long-existing want of all those who are in one way or another interested in these subjects. Anthropologists, ethnologists, ethologists, folklorists, sociologists, psychotherapists and other students will find many of their tasks in their search for references made easy.

In the first part of the volume, authors' names are arranged alphabetically. The name is followed by the date of birth, etc. Then the titles of his relevant works, with date and place of publication and publisher's name, are given, with short statements as to the subjects treated. No criticism is offered. It cannot, of course, be expected that even this stupendous work should be absolutely complete, but there were only a very few omissions among the great number of references we checked; the work, moreover, appears to be quite up to date. The bibliography is followed by a most valuable subject-index, which gives the names of the authors in each subject. Thus, for instance, under "Circumcision" over 70 names appear, and under "Sterility" no less than 621 names are given. The references to "symbolism" should be welcome to psycho-analysts. A subject which we miss in the index is the "*Fus primæ noctis*," though possibly many of the writers whose names appear under "marriage rites and customs" may have discussed this subject also. The subject-index occupies over thirty pages.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Fundamentals of Objective Psychology. By JOHN DASHIELL.
London: George Allen & Unwin, n.d. Large crown 8vo.
Pp. xviii + 588. Price 16s.

If it is pointed out to the student that "objective psychology" is a contradiction in terms, and that psychology is essentially the science of psychic phenomena, the perusal of this book may be recommended to him with safety, for it is essential that the budding psychologist should be well versed in all the border sciences. Besides, the treatment of the subject in this book is not on strictly behaviouristic lines, and the title "*Fundamentals of Applied Psychology*" would perhaps have been more appropriate.

There are eighteen chapters. The first deals with the general nature of psychology as conceived by the author, emphasis being laid upon the interest in understanding human nature and the desire to get control. Anything of psychological interest about man is to be treated as a physical phenomenon in the broader sense of the term, as a natural occurrence in which material bodies effect energy changes. A little later (p. 13) we are told, "Psychology is to be considered as one of the biological sciences. Its distinction from other biological fields rests largely upon the emphasis that it places on man (or animal) *in his interaction with environmental*