

and social elements in musical therapy are well brought out, and while every type of music has its place in the scheme according to circumstances, it would appear from the cases quoted that it is the singing of folk-songs and old-fashioned popular songs that most often produces something like a mental catharsis.

Mr. van de Wall's writings include much popular propaganda, as well as addresses to musicians, psychiatrists and penologists. He is an enthusiast, and although there is much that is merely rhetorical in the glowing descriptions he gives of his work, this is more than compensated by the many practical hints and illustrations given. A very full bibliography is appended to the first of the above-named booklets.

A. WALK.

*Neurologie.* Par le Docteur A. TOURNAY. Paris: G. Doin & Cie, 1926. 6 in. by 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. Pp. 309.

This little book is one of a series entitled "Les Consultations Journalières." The aim is to provide the general practitioner with a summary of modern knowledge on each subject, together with precise instructions for treatment. The book is well-arranged for quick reference, and the salient features of each condition discussed are well brought out. There are, however, a number of notable omissions, including progressive muscular atrophy and its allies, the myopathies, Huntington's chorea and most of the familial diseases. Lesions of individual nerves, including the cranial nerves, are not discussed. Subacute combined degeneration is not recognized as an entity, although a few lines are given to symptomatic combined scleroses.

In the treatment of epilepsy, luminal or gardenal is regarded as the remedy of choice, to be given with a hot drink at least an hour before or an hour and a half after meals. Starting with 10 cgrm. (about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  gr.) a day, the dose should be increased up to 30 or even 40 cgrm. Rutonal, the methyl equivalent of gardenal, may be substituted if gardenal fails. In describing hysteria, Babinski's teaching is followed, and treatment of hysterical symptoms by the "rapid method" of suggestion advised.

The book may be found useful by those who wish to become acquainted with French neurological terminology.

A. WALK.

*Genie—Irrsinn und Ruhm (Genius—Insanity and Fame).* Von WILHELM LANGE-EICHBAUM. Verlag von Ernst Reinhardt in München, 1928. Medium 8vo. Pp. 498.

This book purports to examine the value-problem of "genius and insanity" from a new angle. The term "Irrsinn"—insanity—in the title means "so-called insanity," anything psycho-pathological. The human race has an existence probably of only a few hundred thousand years. The greatest members of the species are called "geniuses." Are they the precursors of a future species?