

*Clinical Psychology.* By LOUIS E. BISCH, M.D. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1925. Demy 8vo. Pp. xiv + 346. 15s. net. (English agents: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, London.)

From the point of view of the contents the title of this book is somewhat unfortunately chosen, for, strictly speaking, their scope is neither clinical nor psychological. The author, however, disarms criticism by disavowing any claim to originality. It is a compilation from many sources which has developed into a book out of his lectures to students at Teachers' College and in the extension courses at Columbia University. The aim of the author has been "to give the teacher a working basis by means of which he or she may be able to recognize an atypical child in the class-room and to know how best to handle the situation." While useful as a compendium of information on different types of abnormal children and of methods of mental testing of varying utility to teachers, where the volume fails is in an over-elaboration of detail. Thus the synoptic table of classification alone covers seven pages, and more than a hundred pages of appendix are devoted to the relation of individual case-histories and test-results, which would probably give a clearer mental picture if they had been less strictly schematic. The scheme for a detailed examination of a child covers eighteen pages. This burden of detail makes the book resemble an over-burdened note-book without any evidence of the relative value of the information which it contains, and detracts from its value as a guide to the elementary school teacher.

G. A. AUDEN.

*La Psychologie des Névroses (The Psychology of the Neuroses).* Par le Dr. O.-L. FOREL. Geneva: Librairie Kundig, 1925. Crown 8vo. Pp. 258. Price 4 francs (Swiss).

The number of publications dealing with psychological problems is very considerable. The divergent views, the schools and the methods advocated vary to such an extent that orientation and discernment have inevitably suffered. In the present work the author has endeavoured to show precisely what are the criteria of the neuroses, what constitutes the dividing line between the neuroses and the normal on the one hand, and between the neuroses and the psychoses on the other. In order to define the position of the neuroses as part of a whole system, the first portion of the book is devoted to a consideration of the psychological and the psychopathological bases of mental medicine. It is obvious that, like many of his Swiss *confrères*, Dr. Forel is thoroughly conversant with the latest views on psychiatry in those countries adjoining his own. As some of these views are very extensively held on the continent, and as they differ in many respects from those held in this country, it may be of interest to the reader of this Journal to refer to them in some detail. It is pointed out that, for many clinicians, the dementia præcox group embraces at least three-quarters of all the psychoses whose anatomical substratum and true ætiology are but little understood. But as the author does not regard dementia