

A method of mental drill based on castanet signals is suggested ; one might suppose that they would tend to make a stammerer even more self-conscious and therefore more likely to stammer. Other methods utilized are : speaking in unison, silent speech, *i.e.*, articulation without voice or whisper, slow speech, in which the vowels are elongated, and relaxation. Bluemel rightly points out that relaxation can only be a minor and never a major principle of speech correction. It is an auxiliary in the treatment of anxiety symptoms whose use is largely limited to adults, since it is not in a child's nature to relax.

This book can be recommended as a lucid exposition of Bluemel's rather naïve theory. Many of the suggestions on treatment will be helpful whatever views one holds on stammering.

HENRY HARRIS.

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*Art and Sex.* By M. J. NICOLSON. London: The Mitre Press. Pp. 97.

This book claims to present a psychological view of art, and begins by suggesting that " Art may be conceived as an attempt to express an idea of an object, at the same time conveying a definite response thereto."

The book seems to have little contact with any sort of reality, and is built " right up in the air." Where it is not obvious it is incomprehensible—for the most part the latter.

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*Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Diseases.* By DAVID LEES, D.S.O., F.R.C.S., etc. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1931. Crown 8vo. Pp. xx + 634. Illus. Price 15s. net.

To one who has " sat at the feet of Gamaliel " it is a pleasure to review this book, and it is an even greater pleasure to find that it is a reflection of Mr. Lees' vivid and human lectures.

The book is divided into two main parts, one devoted to syphilis and the other to gonorrhœa ; but neither condition is accepted alone unless the other has been negatived in each case, and this is a most important condition in any treatment undertaken. In both sections a full description of diagnosis, both differential and particular, is given, and for this alone the book is of extraordinary value to mental hospital medical men. It is provocative of thought, and suggests to one that in many a case a *second* Wassermann might be taken with a view to checking a diagnosis.

Diagnosis is fully and authoritatively considered, and perhaps the fullest portion of the book is to be found in the section on treatment ; technique is described step by step, and complications are shown ; actually there is a complete system of diagnosis, treatment and test of cure, and there is no chance of being taken un-awares if the book is followed.

The section on syphilis of the cardio-vascular system is most