

*Nervenkrankheiten und innere Sekretion (Nervous Diseases and Internal Secretion)*. By Drs. F. PINELES and H. SPOTZER. Halle, 1927. Pp. 60.

The authors pass in review the opinions that are being held by different investigators on the influence of the various endocrine secretions in certain nervous disorders, *e.g.*, myxœdema, exophthalmic goitre, tetany (spasmophilia), pituitary and pineal affections, Addison's disease, neurasthenia (cardiac neuroses), hysteria, epilepsy, vasomotor trophic neuroses, bronchial asthma, paralysis agitans, Wilson's disease, chorea, myasthenia, etc.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*Psyche und innere Sekretion (Mind and Internal Secretion)*. By Dr. O. KLIENEGER. Halle, 1927. Pp. 76.

"The relations of the endocrine glands to the psyche are numerous, manifold and important, the relations of the psyche to the endocrine glands greater and more powerful." With this opening sentence of the preface the author states the general trend of his paper. Psychic disturbances with endocrine disease are discussed first. Psychic infantilism is almost always present in cases of arrested pluriglandular development, described as infantilism. The psychic disturbances invariably found with ennuroidism are discussed; also those encountered in cases of osteomalacia and with the hypo- and hyperfunctions of the thyroid (Basedow's disease, congenital myxœdema and cretinism), spasmophilic conditions and tetany, diseases of the pituitary and the pineal and of the adrenals. The second chapter deals with endocrine disturbances in cases of psychoses: congenital imbecility, senile decay, manic-depressive insanity, schizophrenia and epilepsy. The third chapter is devoted to the psyche and the internal secretions in physiological phases of life: puberty, menstruation and menopause.

The following chapter deals with considerations arising from the preceding paragraphs. The concept of "constitution" is considered. The smallest change from within, the smallest influence from without, may cause changes, under certain conditions even disturbances, in the hormone equilibrium, may inhibit or reinforce psychic processes, determine affects, and finally lead to psychotic disturbances. Whilst fully appreciating the importance of the endocrine apparatus and the vegetative nervous system the paramount importance of the brain remains manifest. With disease of the endocrine glands nervous disturbances are the rule, but distinct psychotic disturbances rare and not characteristic. The author holds that the primary seat of the psychosis is to be looked for in the brain, and that pluriglandular bodily symptoms are consequent phenomena. The brain occupies the dominating position; it is not only the organ of the psyche, but the central organ for the whole organism. Hence the importance of psychic processes for the organism. Interesting examples and experiments are referred to in the next chapter entitled "Results." Psycho-physical interaction and psycho-physical activity are also discussed.