

only have a deteriorating effect on their character. It is to be hoped that with time saner counsels will prevail, and that a mutual feeling of conciliation, leavened with an unselfish desire to give of their best for the good of the community and the welfare of their patients, will be the animating principle of their lives and work.

The Inspectors report favourably on the condition of private asylums generally. That of patients in workhouses does not seem to be altogether satisfactory, especially as regards facilities for bathing and sanitary accommodation, which in many instances are far below the standard which we have reason to expect in these enlightened days. The query suggests itself: Is there proper and adequate supervision in these institutions by the management, both lay and medical? And if not, why not?

Mental Diseases. By R. H. COLE, M.D., F.R.C.P. Second edition. London: University of London Press, Ltd.

The publication of the second edition of *A Text-book of Psychiatry for Medical Students and Practitioners* is an indication of the deserved popularity of this work. This edition, which is well illustrated, has been carefully revised and brought thoroughly up-to-date.

Four chapters are devoted to psychology and neurology, a knowledge of which, as the author contends, is essential to the understanding and treatment of psychiatry. These subjects are dealt with in such a manner that the student should have little difficulty in understanding them.

Dr. Cole's classification of mental diseases is a useful one, and is to be commended.

Special reference is made to the psychoneuroses arising from the war, to treatment by psycho-analysis and other methods, and to the necessity for amendment of the existing legislation to meet the present defects.

This book, in short, will be found most useful to those for whom it is intended.

Studies in Forensic Psychiatry. By BERNARD GLUECK, M.D. London: William Heinemann, fol. 266.

This volume is one of a series of monograph supplements to the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*. It is of interest to the lawyer as well as to the psychiatrist, and it should do much to make clear to the layman the modern view-point of the psycho-pathologist in regard to one aspect of criminology. The whole subject of crime and punishment is extremely complex and difficult, but the sentence which the author quotes from Franz Joseph Gall as long ago as 1810 aptly sums up the attitude of the criminologist of to-day: "The measure of culpability and the measure of punishment cannot be determined by a study of the illegal act, but only by a study of the individual committing it." Perhaps the truth of this is only now beginning to be realised, and, as Dr. Glueck says, "The suppression of crime is not primarily a legal question, but is rather a problem for the physician, sociologist, and economist. . . . The slogan of the modern criminologist is "intensive

study of the individual delinquent from all angles and points of view" rather than mere insistence upon the precise application of a definite kind of punishment to a definite crime as outlined by statute. Indeed the whole idea of punishment is giving way to the idea of correction and reformation. . . . For criminology is an integral part of psychopathology, crime is a type of abnormal conduct which expresses a failure of proper adjustment at the psychological level."

The first chapters are devoted to the consideration of what are commonly known as the "prison psychoses." These cases belong, of course, to the wider group of what are known as the "psychogenetic" or "situation psychoses," so-called since they are immediately caused by a painful situation in the environment. The study of these cases has been curiously neglected in this country, though much attention has been given to them in Germany, and in America the name of Dr. Glueck is especially associated with careful studies of cases belonging to this category. Perhaps if it had been more generally recognised that many cases presenting a dementia præcox-like clinical picture are liable to occur with severe environmental stress, and to rapidly clear up when the stress is removed, less mistakes in diagnosis would have been made in connection with the war psychoses. Many civil psychoses, which clear up rapidly when removed from their usual environment to a mental hospital, probably belong to the group of the psychogenetic psychoses, and the interest of the subject is by no means limited to those cases which occur in prisoners awaiting trial or undergoing punishment. The discussion of this subject in this volume, together with an excellent description of a number of cases, will be found well worth the attention of all those interested in the study of mental disorder, both from the purely clinical standpoint as well as that of criminology.

A chapter is devoted to the study of "litigious paranoia," and a full and complete consideration is given to the question of the malingeringer, both these subjects being illustrated by descriptions of concrete cases. These subjects contain material of much interest to the psychiatrist, and the psychological problems which they involve are discussed from a modern view-point which will be found helpful and illuminating. The last chapter contains a psycho-analytic study of a case of kleptomania which serves to suggest the value of an intensive individual approach in attempting to understand morbid mental phenomena.

This book may be thoroughly recommended and will well repay careful study, not only from the point of view of criminology, but from its wider implications. It serves to illustrate that insanity is not only a matter of classification, but it is a type of abnormal reaction to life, the significance of which can only be understood by a study of the psychogenetic factors which play a part in its production. H. DEVINE.

Rational Sex Ethics. By W. F. ROBIE, M.D. Boston: Badger. London: Stanley Phillips, 45, Brondesbury Road. Pp. 356. Price 15s.

Sane Sex Life and Sane Sex Living. By H. W. LONG, M.D. Same publishers. Pp. 157. Price 25s.

These two volumes are examples—more favourable examples, it may be added, than might easily be chosen—of the most modern