

the two lectures referred to should emanate from an American source.

The translation, with a useful introduction by the translator, is clear and unpretentious. At this time when international discord has again burst out in slaughter the English reader will note, with mingled feelings, Pettenkofer's cordial appreciation of this country. London, "that gigantic city," with its death rate of 22 per thousand was chosen by him as a model for Munich with its death rate of 33 per thousand, and he outlined a public health policy which, he thought, if persevered in, would bring the Munich death rate down to vie with that of London. In 1901, the year of his death, that dream came true.

A STUDY OF PSYCHOPATHS

The Mask of Sanity. An Attempt to Reinterpret the So-called Psychopathic Personality. By Hervey Cleckley, B.S., M.D., Professor of Neuro-psychiatry, University of Georgia School of Medicine. (Pp. 298. 15s.) London: Henry Kimpton, 1941.

In very lively and vigorous prose Prof. Cleckley describes the careers of a specially selected group of psychopaths. Irrecoverable ne'er-do-wells, throughout their lives they drank, squandered their resources, sabotaged their opportunities, sponged and cheated, and, as of set purpose, repeatedly involved themselves and their families in the most painful and humiliating situations. In many parts the book is more entertaining than any novel. Some of the exploits described are really amazing—lying drunk on the high altar, spitting on the birthday cake at a formal party, securing admission to a cage in a dog hospital and sending for the professor for him to see how his research student had gone to the dogs. In the Federal hospital, where they usually came only to escape the worst consequences of their scrapes, these men showed themselves bland, complacent, plausible, full of fine professions; they held up, as it were, a mask of sanity, behind which lurked something very different.

Prof. Cleckley has made the attempt to remove the mask and analyse the mind behind it, but the analytical part of his work is not so satisfactory as the descriptive. He compares these psychopaths in turn with the psychotic, neurotic, defective, criminal, the everyday drinker, with the subject of organic brain disease, and finds only some resemblance to the last. He has omitted comparison with the hysteric, with whom these characters have much in common. He rejects "the futile viewpoint indicated by merely postulating an imaginary constitutional inferiority," and seeks for the aetiology in psychogenesis and early maladjustments. This complete negation of any constitutional aspect is out of date, and Prof. Cleckley has not considered what possibly fruitful lines of investigation would be opened up by taking it into account. Working with a very similar clinical material von Baeyer, in *Zur Genealogie psychopathologischer Schwindler und Lueger* (Leipzig, 1935) made important and illuminating observations on the constitutional basis of psychopathy. Prof. Cleckley has taken one pattern out of the kaleidoscope of personality deviations and exalted it to a syndrome, from the psychopathological point of view an insidious process of "semantic dementia." In this view it is not easy to follow him.

Notes on Books

A second edition of the *Textbook of Medical Treatment*, by various authors, edited by Profs. D. M. DUNLOP, L. S. P. DAVIDSON, and J. W. MCNEE, has now been published at 25s. by E. and S. Livingstone of Edinburgh. This admirable textbook has evidently established its popularity quite quickly. First published in June, 1939, it was reprinted with some additions in 1940. The second edition has been completely revised, especially where this was indicated by the rapid advance of sulphonamide therapy in so many directions. Other sections that have been partially rewritten are those on diseases of the mouth and oxygen therapy. Where possible English equivalents have been substituted for German preparations now not available. The editors have wisely decided not to attempt to adapt their dietetic prescriptions to wartime rationing, since this is always fluctuating and temporary. There can be little doubt that this book will continue to have the success it deserves.

The two sections of Truman and Knightley's handbook *Schools: 1942* which will be found most generally useful are the directory of schools in Great Britain, arranged in order of their counties and towns, and the Evacuation Supplement, classi-

fied on the same plan and giving the present address of each school which has evacuated. Copies may be had from 61, Conduit Street, W.1, price 3s., plus 7d. postage or 1s. abroad.

Surg. Rear-Adml. C. M. BEADNELL'S *Dictionary of Scientific Terms* (London: Watts and Co. Ltd., 2s.) appears in a revised second edition. It has been amplified by a supplementary list of words and expressions which brings up to date a pocket-book of reference that appeals because of its compact and comprehensive character.

Preparations and Appliances

A NEW ADAPTATION OF THE CLOVER INHALER

Dr. E. ROLAND WILLIAMS (Clynderwen, Pembrokeshire) writes:

Nowadays the popularity of the Clover inhaler has waned considerably. Used as Clover originally designed it, this inhaler has the great drawback of being cumbersome, and it is a wearisome business to keep the combined face-piece, metal ether chamber, and bag applied to the patient's face throughout a long administration. A simple adaptation, similar to that in use in most forms of gas-oxygen apparatus, converts a Clover inhaler into a portable anaesthetic apparatus of great handiness and versatility.

In the apparatus here described (Fig. 1) the body of the inhaler has been fitted with a light metal carrier and clamp that enable it to be attached to the end of an operating table, the rail of an anaesthetic trolley, the head-piece of an examining couch, a

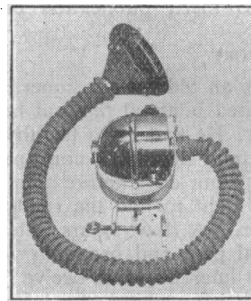


FIG. 1

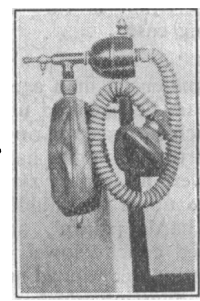


FIG. 2

bed-rail, or the back of a chair (Fig. 2)—in fact, to almost anything. A length of corrugated breathing-tube connects the inhaler with the face-piece, and the latter may be kept in place, if desired, by the use of Clausen's "harness."

The inhaler may be used, of course, "open" or "closed." In the open form I have found it a satisfactory apparatus for administering vinesthene-ether mixture. The open inhaler, too, clamped on to the bed-rail, is very handy for the administration (or self-administration) of ether in obstetrics.

The tap on the bag-mount and the Barth's valves interposed between the face-piece and the breathing-tube adapt it for use with gas-and-oxygen. The rebreathing bag can be "cut out" by rotating the tap-mount through a quarter-circle.

It has been found particularly economical and satisfactory to induce anaesthesia with gas and oxygen and then maintain it with ether by the Clover method. In that way, gas and oxygen is not used as a "vehicle" for what usually turns out to be, in essence, an ether anaesthesia expensively but conveniently administered.

[Since taking the photographs it has been found advantageous to shorten the breathing-tube to two-thirds of the length illustrated.]

COMPOUND VITAMIN TABLETS

Roche Products Ltd. are now selling "benerva" compound vitamin tablets, each of which contains 1 mg. aneurin (vitamin B₁), 1 mg. riboflavin, and 15 mg. nicotinic acid. The dose recommended is 1 tablet daily for prophylaxis and 4 to 6 tablets for treatment. Deficiency in riboflavin, which normally is obtained from milk and from meat and eggs as well as from bread and potatoes, is likely to occur in these times, and indeed is stated by some to be fairly widespread. The deficiency shows itself as vascularization of the edge of the cornea, gradually moving to the centre and becoming a keratitis. The ordinary requirement of riboflavin is 2 mg. daily, and in respect of this and the other constituents the tablets should be satisfactory. It is refreshing to find tablets of this kind prepared with adequate but not excessive doses.