In recent years there has appeared much new work on the vitamins, the hormones, the function of the pancreas and on hæmatopoesis as well as on renal function, so that the discussion of the diseased conditions in which these various factors are involved has required much revision, in which the original author has obtained the help of a collaborator—Dr. Reginald Hilton.

This is a book which can be warmly recommended for it can be confidently stated that no clinician can peruse its pages without benefit and a quickening of his interest in his calling.

A SOCIAL PROBLEM GROUP?

Edited by C. P. BLACKER, M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Oxford University Press. 1937. Price 15/- net.

This volume consists of a series of articles dealing with conditions which have such a far-reaching effect on Society that they have been most legitimately called social problems. Such questions as mental deficiency, crime, prostitution and unemployment, their causes, their reactions and their cost, find full discussion by writers who have given much thought to them. The articles not only review much of the research which has already been done towards the better understanding of these various problems but they incorporate recent and until now unpublished work.

As the volume is edited by the Secretary of The Eugenics Society it is only natural that at times one sees a bias in favour of the mental make-up, and the hereditary nature of this, as the really responsible factor. But the influence of environment

always receives careful consideration. For the most part the various articles reveal an eminently judicial attitude and consequently they stress where our knowledge of facts is insufficient and in what directions further research must proceed for a fuller understanding. Indeed, so prominent a feature is this throughout the whole volume that it cannot be neglected by any student of sociology.

PRACTICAL ORTHOPTICS IN THE TREATMENT OF SQUINT.

By KEITH LYLE and SYLVIA JACKSON. H. K. Lewis & Co. 1937. Price 12/6.

The chief aim of this book is to provide a practical manual for orthoptic students. Few of these students will be medical practitioners, but as the latter will at least be in nominal charge of squint cases, a reasonable knowledge of the practical side of modern orthoptic training is necessary, and is well provided by this book written by an ophthalmic surgeon and an experienced hospital orthoptic worker and teacher.

The subject is clearly set out, and the 'lay' element in authorship makes a suitable approach for the type of student, at present at least, taking up squint training as an occupation. Not all oculists will accept some of the claims and results, especially as an estimate of the value of orthoptic training in the squint cases of a private practice, but as a textbook for students and a practical account of orthoptics, it is a well balanced and well produced manual.

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