

to find in a book written by a pupil of Arrhenius and Ostwald that the English work of Prof. H. B. Baker, by which the vital influence of moisture on chemical change has been brought out in so picturesque and striking a form, receives (probably for the first time in a text-book of physical chemistry) something like adequate treatment. The author was undoubtedly right, however, in putting these classical experiments in the forefront of his argument when seeking to justify the great stress that has been laid upon the condition of solution by so many workers in physical science. The work of Prof. Jones's colleague, Prof. Morse, on "The Osmotic Pressure of Solutions" finds a natural place in this volume, and the principal results of this investigation are quoted.

The principal features of the theory of electrolytic dissociation are described, but as the special work of the author dealt largely with the existence of hydrates in solution, the naked ion of the original theory is less conspicuous than is customary, and more than usual recognition is given to the part played by the solvent in electrolysis. There is also an important chapter on colloidal solution, in which a good account is given of the current position as regards both theory and practice. A brief chapter on "Solutions in Solids as Solvents" is, on the other hand, both inadequate and misleading: the formation of fusible alloys is quoted, without any evidence whatever, as an example of this type of solution. The whole effect of the chapter is to show that the author did not attempt to keep in touch either with crystallography, *i.e.* with the physical chemistry of solids, or with the scientific side of metallurgy, which affords so many and such valuable illustrations of the application of physico-chemical theory. The author's summary in the final clauses of this chapter—that "our knowledge both of pure solids and of solid solutions is very meagre. We have just scratched the surface, so to speak, of matter in the solid state"—is singularly inappropriate, in view of the work of Moseley and of Bragg, which has given us a knowledge of the solid state that is in many respects more exact and more detailed than our knowledge of solutions even after more than 100 years of controversy. This aspect of the theory of solution is, however, really outside the scope of the author's work and interest, and its virtual omission is not a serious fault in a book avowedly concerned in the main with the more ordinary type of liquid solution, and giving an excellent account of this important subject. T. M. L.

THE FUTURE OF THE SEA FISHERIES.
Fisheries of the North Sea. By Neal Green. Pp. vii+178. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1918.) Price 4s. 6d. net.

MR. GREEN'S book is a very plainly written and (generally) a very accurate, short account of the British sea fisheries: it is quite the best of the modern works on the subject of which it treats. One may regard it as an attempt to anticipate the future by considering the present tendencies, and also by contrasting State adminis-

tration here with that of France, the United States, and Germany. Political developments are noticed and their possible effects discussed: the Empire resources development schemes and the expected economic boycott of Germany are policies which the author regards as short-sighted and likely to be disastrous to us. The former proposals he describes as "impracticable and unjust," and the latter, he expects, will end in a great expansion of the fishery marines of both Norway and Germany, and the depreciation of the British herring fisheries: these theses are very well argued. Fishery organisation in foreign countries is described succinctly and rather to the disadvantage of France and Great Britain. "The administration of the fishing industry by the Norwegian Government is the best organised and most intelligent of all European countries." "More than any other country, France protects and subsidises the fishing industry in order to provide a naval reserve . . . the constant interference of the Government may be said to be the chief cause of the unprogressive spirit among the workers." America, Canada, and Japan have a chapter to themselves, and a picture of astonishing energy and progress is presented.

The contrast that is thus suggested is rather disheartening: "To-day scientific research in our fisheries is almost entirely absent; it is, in fact, probable that there are not three chemists employed in the whole industry; little is known of the food values of different fishes or the constituents of the by-products, or the most efficient and economical processes whereby the fullest advantage can be obtained from those values." The only big fish-preservation industry in Great Britain, that of the salt-cure of herrings, employs a process which has scarcely been modified throughout four centuries; the English industry of fish-canning is almost infinitesimal compared with that of America, and Germany, before the war, bought our fresh herrings greedily and built up a fish-preservation trade worth five millions a year. "At present there is not [in Great Britain] a single million-pound business engaged in the industry. There is far more capital engaged in the manufacture of soap than is used in the exploitation of the British fisheries." All this is a picture of the condition of business enterprise and administration and scientific research which is very unlike that usually placed before the public, and Mr. Green's book is the more interesting on that account. J. J.

THE BASIS OF MENTAL AND NERVOUS DISORDERS.

The Neurotic Constitution. Outlines of a Comparative Individualistic Psychology and Psychotherapy. By Dr. A. Adler. Translated by Dr. B. Glueck and Dr. J. E. Lind. Pp. xxiii+456. (London: Kegan Paul and Co., Ltd., 1918.) Price 16s. net.

THE views of Dr. Adler, though expressed at length, lose in definition by being seen through the rather irregularly refracting medium of the