

once that in the British Isles places fully exposed to the west winds have much heavier rain in winter than in summer, while on the east coast rainfall is more evenly distributed through the year. The author loves a paradox and a note of interrogation regarding widely prevalent ideas. In the first of the new chapters he is certainly successful in stimulating thought when he defends the idea that the pressure distribution is produced by the winds, not vice versa.

The chapter on agriculture contains a number of interesting diagrams. It includes a discussion of the calendar, though it makes no mention of the widely supported World Calendar in which the year consists of four quarters each of three months or 91 days, beginning on a Sunday; in it the 365th day is inserted between December and January.

The book is strongly recommended, to meteorological specialists and laymen alike, for its wide range of appeal, historical and artistic as well as scientific.

G. T. W.

Meteorology for Aviators

By Dr. R. C. Sutcliffe. (Air Ministry: Meteorological Office.) (M.O. 432: A.P. 1699.) Pp. xiv + 278 + 27 plates. (London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1939.) 7s. 6d. net.

THIS publication deals with those aspects of meteorology which are of importance in aviation; but as most of the subject-matter is the common ground of meteorology, the book will appeal to many who are not directly concerned with aviation. It is intended primarily to cover the meteorological syllabuses laid down for the various air navigators' and pilots' licences, and so supplies a long-felt want.

To some extent the information is presented in an encyclopædic, albeit very readable, form, and in this respect the volume recalls the very serviceable Admiralty Weather Manual. The statements that severe hail is "very rare" in the British Isles and that "for really spectacular hailstorms it is necessary to go to tropical and sub-tropical regions" perhaps call for some revision. Hail is a veritable scourge in many parts of central and southern Europe, and in France an elaborate organization for the defence of the vineyards has been in existence for several years (see *Geog. J.*, December 1939, p. 509). L. C. W. B.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychological Foundations of Personality

A Guide for Students and Teachers. By Prof. Louis P. Thorpe. (McGraw-Hill Series in Education.) Pp. xvi + 602. (New York and London: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1938.) 21s.

THE author is assistant professor of education in the University of Southern California. His book is one of many on personality and compares very favourably with most.

Prof. Thorpe has wisely left out the usual string of illustrative cases which contrive to spoil most books

on the subject and are usually a complete waste of time to read. Most readers have ample clinical material of their own; to those who have not, cases usually add confusion and a certain superficiality.

After reading books on personality, the present reviewer always wonders, Is the world any better for all this? Time alone will show.

The Family meets the Depression

A Study of a Group of Highly Selected Families. By Prof. Winona L. Morgan. (Institute of Child Welfare, Monograph No. 19.) Pp. x + 126. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1939.) 9s. net.

THIS is a study of the economic stability and psychological adjustments of several hundred families drawn from different parts of the United States. A prior study of the same families was carried out in 1927 and the present investigation was planned with the purpose of discovering any effects due to the intervening five-year period of economic depression (1927-1932). A comparison is made between the earlier and later results. The sample of families was relatively homogeneous as regards socio-economic status. The general outcome, according to the author, seems to favour the family as a social institution.

Biographies of Child Development

The Mental Growth Careers of Eighty-four Infants and Children; a Ten-Year Study from the Clinic of Child Development at Yale University. Part 1, by Dr. Arnold Gesell; Part 2, by Dr. Catherine S. Amatrua, Dr. Burton M. Castner, Dr. Helen Thompson. Pp. xvii + 328. (London: Hamish Hamilton, Ltd., 1939.) 15s.

GESELL'S valuable contributions to the field of mental growth and developmental norms in infancy need no introduction. The present work by Gesell and three associates is the result of cumulative observations carried out over a period of ten years, on eighty-four infants and children. A wide diversity of cases, mostly typical and touching many aspects of child psychology, is to be found in this study. The primary aim of the authors is to assess the prognostic value of the normative criteria used at the Yale Clinic of Child Development. The book is carefully written and may be recommended to psychologists in Great Britain.

Psychopathic States

By Prof. D. K. Henderson. (Thomas W. Salmon Memorial Lectures.) Pp. 178. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1939.) 8s. 6d. net.

THE Salmon Memorial Lectures for 1938 were delivered by Prof. D. K. Henderson of Edinburgh. They deal in a very fascinating manner with the problem presented by the psychopath and his many bizarre disorders of conduct.

It is difficult to make the lay mind understand that these mental disorders can occur and usually