

Similar tests were also carried out while pressure was exerted on the carotid vessels. In these cases also there was a marked impairment of memory, which improved immediately the pressure was removed. The details of these various experiments are given at length by the writer, as are also the details of the 220 cases already mentioned. He sums up the results of his investigations as follows:

“Disturbances of memory occur not infrequently in disease of the organ of hearing, especially of the middle ear. In certain cases they manifest themselves as general amnesia, but more commonly as loss or weakening of memory in one special direction, as in the case of names, figures, persons, places, music, speech, etc. The disturbances of memory last in isolated cases a fairly long time, but it is more common for them to occur only now and then and in varying degree. They are often dependent on the changing condition of the disease of the outer or middle ear, and pass away with the cessation of the ear trouble. Disturbances of memory may also be brought about by operations on the middle ear. How the memory may be influenced by ear conditions is shown by the influence of the ear on the central nervous system, as can be recognised in its motor, sensory and psychical relationships. Of special importance is the reflex vasomotor effect of ear conditions on the blood-vessels of the brain, which is known to affect memory to a high degree. In this respect the proof of an increase of blood-pressure brought about by the ear is worthy of notice. Experimentally one can prove, with the help of optic and acoustic memory pictures, that plugging of the outer and middle ear, as also pressure on the carotid, has an inhibitory effect on the memory.”

J. K. Milne Dickie.

The Twin Ideals: An Educated Commonwealth. By SIR JAMES W. BARRETT, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. 2 vols. With maps and diagrams. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. Price 25s. net.

Sir James Barrett, of Melbourne, in addition to being a noted ophthalmologist and aurist, has devoted much time to disseminating sane and progressive views among the democratic people of Australasia, and these volumes represent a collection of many of his articles, essays, and addresses on educational subjects.

The author writes in a very readable and easy style. Like the American he quotes, he himself is “a man of very great culture, but does not let that worry him.” Consequently, as one reads on in these books one is very apt to miss the fact that what is being read is the artistic and finished product of a cool, temperate thinker and observer who has also himself read deep and wide.

The themes handled are those pertaining to education in the widest sense of the term, and range from the milk question to grand opera and orchestral music.

Anyone who wishes to get into touch rapidly and easily with progressive educational movement cannot do better than make himself master of these quite fascinating studies.

Dan McKenzie.

Catalogue of Lewis's Medical and Scientific Circulating Library, including a Classified Index of Subjects. New Edition, revised to the end of 1917. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., 1918.

Messrs. Lewis's scientific library is well known to all London and many provincial medical men, and needs no puffing. The Catalogue now before us gives a clear idea of the large collection of books the subscriber

may browse over, including as it does works on all kinds of scientific activity as well as on medicine. Geikie's geological works, Frazer's "Golden Bough," in all the glory of its seven resplendent and intricate branches, and even such semi-scientific productions as Sir Oliver Lodge's "Raymond," are all included within its wide embrace. Subscribers to Lewis's Library need never know a dull Sunday.

Dan McKenzie.

Harvard Health Talks: Adenoids and Tonsils. By ALGERNON COOLIDGE, M.D., Professor of Laryngology in Harvard University. Pp. 46. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1916.

A sensible and brief exposition of the subject, with a tendency towards conservatism of view and practice.

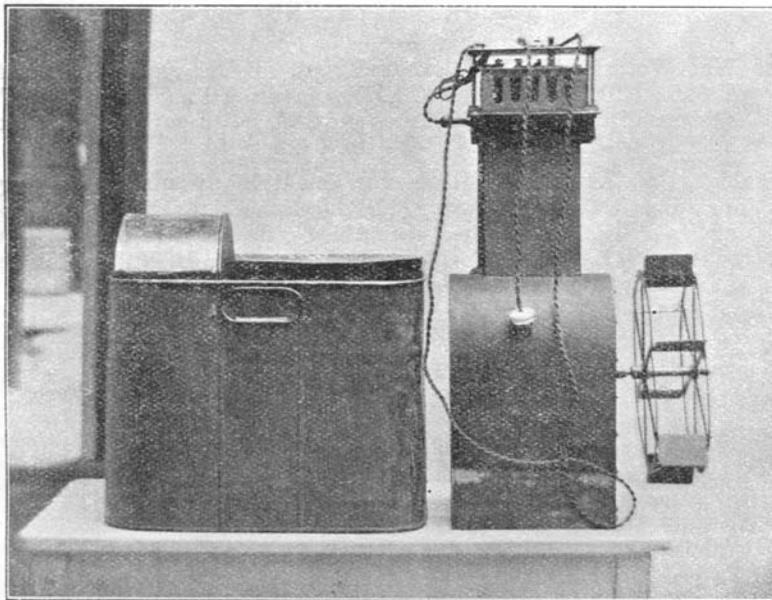
The puzzle of the function of these lymphoid masses is glanced at, and the suggestion thrown out that they may be antitoxin-producing glands.

Dan McKenzie.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

A NOISE-PRODUCING MACHINE.

The apparatus here figured is the invention of a lady who was a sufferer from a disturbing form of tinnitus aurium. She had it made in order to produce sufficient external noise in her quiet bedroom in the country to enable her to get sleep.



A

B

The paddle with its motor (B) wire placed inside A, a tin vessel containing water.

It consists of an electrically-driven paddle which with its motor was placed inside the tin vessel (on the left of the illustration), the latter being half filled with water. In this way a continuous splashing sound was produced and the patient was able to sleep.