

I have often shown"; our objection is that he has not shown; we should be more grateful to him for a single piece of detailed original research bearing on the question of evolution, such as Heslop Harrison's work on the inheritance of melanic varieties in certain Lepidoptera, than for any amount of argument.

*Researches in Polynesia and Melanesia; an Account of Investigations in Samoa, Tonga, the Ellice Group, and the Hebrides, in 1924, 1925.* By Patrick A. Buxton. Parts 5-7 (relating to Human Diseases and Welfare). (Memoir Series, No. 2.) Pp. xi + 139 + 27 plates. (London: London School of Hygiene and Tropical Diseases, 1928.) 9s.

Few problems of tropical medicine are more complex than that of the pathology of filariasis; it is one which for elucidation will require extensive research, carefully planned and properly standardised. Dr. Buxton's contribution to the problem forms Part 5 of the account of the investigations in Polynesia and Melanesia undertaken by the expedition sent out by the London School of Tropical Medicine. It bears the stamp of strictly scientific medical research. The methods and technique adopted are described in minute detail; statistics are complete and precise; a well-reasoned commentary concludes the account, and numerous references and cross-references enable the reader to verify readily the evidence on which the author's deductions are based. Considering the conditions under which research work in Oceania is carried out, Dr. Buxton is to be congratulated on the complete and exact nature of this record.

The study in filariasis forms the principal part of the book. Parts 6 and 7 are devoted to a consideration of other human diseases in Oceania, and the effect of European culture on the Samoan. The text is illustrated by a series of excellent photographs.

*The Mind of the Savage.* By Raoul Allier. Translated by Fred Rothwell. Pp. xiv + 301. (London: G. Bell and Sons, Ltd., 1929.) 15s. net.

THIS is the translation of a book which appeared first in 1927 under the title "Le non-civilisé et nous". The author, during a long life devoted to the study of Protestant theology in the University of Paris, has been closely associated with missionary work, especially in Madagascar. His study of the psychology and sociology of primitive peoples, which has proceeded concurrently with his activity in the administration of missions, has therefore had a strong practical bias throughout, which appears, as the original title shows, in this exposition of his conception of primitive mentality. The main line of his argument is aimed at demonstrating the disastrous and paralysing effect of the belief in magic in all departments of primitive life and activity. One point he brings out of which perhaps too little has been made hitherto, and that is that magic involves not so much the association of ideas as the association of emotions. He ranges himself with Lévy Bruhl and other French

psychologists as against the English school. To some at least of the latter school his conclusions will appear too abstract and 'to smell of the lamp'. In other words, his view of the function of magic is external and ignores recent work which has studied it as an integral element functioning in a given social environment. The concluding chapters are practical in their bearing and deal with "A New Philosophy of Colonisation" and the rôle of Christian missions.

*Trout Fisheries: their Care and Preservation.* By J. C. Mottram. Pp. 186. (London: Herbert Jenkins, Ltd., 1928.) 10s. 6d. net.

To have the fortune to own or lease trout streams of the first order is the lot of few, and reading Mr. Mottram's book causes one to wish for some such water on which to experiment. Certainly, those who have this good fortune should not fail to study this work, which contains much practical advice; it should also be in the hands of those who control the many associations which maintain the fisheries of the streams and lakes with which the British Isles abound.

Of special interest is the chapter on trout disease and restocking, in which the author directs attention to recent research on the causes of outbreaks of disease in large populations and the dangers of introducing healthy stock into populations which have already passed through an epidemic, thus incurring the risk of starting the disease afresh owing to the weak resistance of the new blood. The dangers of introducing possible carriers of furunculosis are also stressed, a subject the study of which has recently been taken up by a joint committee under the auspices of the Fishery Board for Scotland, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Kennet Valley Fisheries Association.

The book is very clearly printed with large type and makes pleasant reading. The insertion of photographs to supplement some of the line diagrams would perhaps have been an improvement.

*Medical Adventure: some Experiences of a General Practitioner.* By Dr. Ernest Ward. Pp. xii + 291. (London: John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd., 1929.) 8s. 6d. net.

THE enjoyment with which many readers of the *London Hospital Gazette* have perused Dr. Ernest Ward's articles will be shared by all who read his book "Medical Adventure". Written with a literary ability rarely found in medical men, every chapter reveals the author's powers of observing and recording, and, when in lighter vein, his keen sense of humour. His accounts of difficult and amusing situations, of cases common and uncommon, of successes and failures, give a really unique description of a general practitioner's work. His reflections on many problems are most instructive, but are offered with unassuming modesty. To the young practitioner especially this book will prove of great value; from it he will learn lessons as readily as if he had himself experienced Dr. Ward's adventures.