practical application with human understanding which is so essential in the treatment of tuberculosis. Special stress is laid on the part the nurse plays in the rehabilitation of the patient and the family which, according to the author, is 'the ultimate goal in tuberculosis'. The book is remarkable in that it sets a new and high standard for the nursing profession. It raises the status of the public health nurse to that of a specialized supervisor in the tuberculosis hospital. It is at the same time a valuable textbook for the student nurse. One noteworthy feature of the book is that at the end of every chapter there are review questions to test the knowledge of the student.

B. P.

PSYCHIATRIC CASE-TAKING CARDS.—By Dr. A. Spencer Paterson. Size $5\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$. Second Edition. 1948. H. K. Lewis and Company, Limited, London, W.C.1. Price, 9d. net

A SECOND edition has just been issued of these popular cards which were first published in 1943. They are pocket size and sold in a transparent envelope. One side gives the *questions asked at the first interview to establish a provisional diagnosis*. The other side gives questions put to a case of *psychoneurosis* to elicit causal factors in the history.

They will be found useful not only by psychiatrists but by all medical men and women who encounter psychiatric cases in their practice from time to time.

THE OBJECTIVE METHOD OF DREAM INTERPRETATION.—By Major Satya Nand, M.B., B.S., I.M.S. 1947. Published by the author from Medical College, Amritsar. Pp. xv plus 251 plus 4. Available at Kitabstan, Allahabad

THIS is a study of dreams—their structure and functions. Analysis of dreams yields highly interesting details of the dreamer's subconscious mind, but it is not an easy job. The author describes in this book a method of interpreting dreams—method of reminiscence in which the subject of analysis is encouraged to concentrate as fully as he can on one topic, idea or event, and then let the mind work on it in alternate phases of stimulation and relaxation. In this method the interpretation of a dream is carried out in two separate stages: (1) dream analysis and (2) dream reconception. The technique is illustrated by the interpretations of two sample dreams which occupy a good part of the book. The author refers to the divergent views of different schools on dream analysis and criticizes their methods as not being exhaustive, as they leave out of consideration those parts of the dream which they feel are not convenient. His own views are interesting, but reading of the book is rendered somewhat difficult by frequent misprints and errors of punctuation.

R. N. C.

'SOIL EROSION: ITS PREVENTION AND CONTROL.'—Chief Editor L. Venkatakrishnan. Published by the Government of Madras, Government Press, Madras. Pp. xii plus 184. Illustrated. Price, Rs. 6

THIS attractive and well-written book has been compiled by an editorial committee of experts whose names have not been mentioned. The chief editor is L. Venkatakrishnan, the distinguished engineer, who has designed and built many irrigation and river training works in the Madras P.W.D.

The subject has been dealt with from various angles—irrigation, agricultural economy, forestry and health; and the book contains a wealth of information pertaining to India and plenty of technical data. The engineering aspects of soil erosion and soil conservation have been emphasized and dealt with more exhaustively than the rest. Some of the control measures can be put into effect only by Governments, as they are beyond the technical and financial resources of the average farmer with a small holding.

The book contains a chapter on 'Erosion and Malaria' which tries to cover the entire field of anti-malarial engineering in a short compass. In this connection, one wonders whether the instruction contained in the note under figure 63, page 56, 'The borrow pits should all be marked on the upstream side of the (contour) bund and never on the rear side (or downstream side)' has been made with due regard to malaria control. Such a pit is likely to hold water for a longer period than necessary, and may promote malaria in the foothills, whereas if the borrow pit is formed by scraping the sidelong ground on the downstream side, it will not hold water, will not produce malaria and this will not weaken the bund appreciably.

K. S.

BOOKS RECEIVED

1. Popular Science: A monthly journal. Edited by Perry Githens. Published by Godfrey Hammond of the Popular Science Publishing Company, Inc., at 353 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

2. World Health Organization: Progress and Plans. Published by the Department of State, United States of America. Printed at the U.S. Government Printing Office. 1948.

3. Nagpur Medical College Journal. Volume I, No. 1, April 1948. Edited by V. P. Mishra. Published by Mr. S. K. Chaturvedi, B.Sc., at the Medical College, Nagpur, C.P.

4. Chikitsa-Jagat. Volume XIX, No. 10, August 1948. A monthly medical journal. Written in Bengali. Edited and published by Dr. Amulyadhan Mukharji from 27/C, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.

5. Annual Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, United Provinces, for the year ending December 1946. Printed at Allahabad by the Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, United Provinces, India. Price, 5 annas.

6. The Vegetarian News. Volume XXVII, No. 260. Summer, 1948. Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Number. A quarterly journal. Published by The London Vegetarian Society, 9, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2.

7. Journal of the Gujarat Research Society. Volume X, No. 3, July 1948. A quarterly journal. Published in September 1948, by The Honorary General Secretary, Gujarat Research Society, 46-48, Esplanade Mansion, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay 1.

8. Chikitsa-Jagat. Volume XIX, No. 11, September 1948. Edited by Dr. A. D. Mukharji. Published by Dr. Amulyadhan Mukharji from 27/C, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.

9. Chikitsa-Jagat. Volume XIX, No. 12, October 1948. Edited and published by Dr. Amulyadhan Mukharji from 27/C, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.

Abstracts from Reports

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE LEPROSY RELIEF ASSOCIATION, NEW DELHI, FOR THE YEAR 1947

Report of the Chairman

THE All-India Leprosy Workers' Conference, held during the year at Wardha, was the first of its kind in India, and it could be said to mark the initiation of a new and a brighter chapter of anti-leprosy work in India.