literary talents, and his ability to bring his book to life. He searches for signs of originality and philosophy of outlook and for those expressions of opinion and experience that bear witness to the personality of the author. He usually looks in vain and this is surely because the schematization, so traditional and seemingly unavoidable, effectively masks the man who wielded the pen. The neurologist who begins his examination with the olfactory nerve and like 'an engine that moves in predestinate grooves', to quote Ronald Knox, labours away until he arrives at the anal reflex, could, one supposes, write a good textbook, but he is much more likely to leave some wonderful notes.

The author of this new textbook is Professor of Neurology in the State University of New York at Buffalo. On page 20 he says 'a routine neurological examination in a cooperative and intelligent patient can be completed in a matter of minutes', something which badly needed saying and which I cannot recall having read in any other textbook of neurology. I warmed to my task.

His book is primarily for students and although the presentation is quite orthodox he has achieved his aim of not just writing 'a synopsis of disease'. (How many times has one read of the 'catalogue raisonné' in prefaces and reviews since it first appeared in the preface to Sir Francis Walshe's 'Diseases of the nervous system' 25 years ago?) Certainly he has been successful in combining adequate and readable clinical descriptions of the commoner major and minor neurological disorders with the necessary background of anatomy, physiology, and biochemistry. The book is well planned and there are useful selected bibliographies at the end of each chapter.

There are no clinical photographs but the standard neuroradiological illustrations are there and they are satisfactorily reproduced and clearly labelled. The anatomical line drawings could be bolder and the short section on electromyography would be better for a few illustrations as in the section on electroencephalography. Figure 47 (p. 391), depicting the blood supply of the brain, is a much better illustration than is commonly employed in texts of this nature. The weakest chapter is the last, on neuropsychiatry. It is an important one and could be sharpened up without much trouble.

Has Professor Smith even seen a case of lumbar syringomyelia? And should he still talk of Gradenigo's syndrome (pp. 181 and 427) after vowing in the preface 'to practice moderation in the use of eponyms'? Neither Argyll-Robertson nor Adie will ever see in the section on the myotonic pupil (p. 192) that offensive neologism 'the pseudo Argyll-Robertson pupil', but Sir Gordon Holmes might and he would not like it at all. In giving examples of organic neurological disorders which may be mistaken for psychogenic illness surely the Guillain-Barré syndrome and subarachnoid haemorrhage are unusual?

A reviewer of a student's textbook (and he should more often be a student) acts as a sort of consumers' guide. In this instance the appropriate designation would be that it was a good 'buy'—soundly constructed, reliable, and likely to sell well.

W. RITCHIE RUSSELL


This small book gives a clear and simple presentation of current physiological concepts of the activities of the reticular formation, the hypothalamus, and the rhinencephalon. It will be specially helpful to senior students of psychology.


This book comprises the second series of lectures on the Biochemical aspects of Neurological Disorders given at the Institute of Neurology, The National Hospital, Queen Square, in 1964. Following the same pattern as the original series each topic is dealt with first from the clinical standpoint after which biochemical aspects are discussed. The 18 lectures in the present volume include, for the most part, subjects other than those of the earlier ones.

The first lecture deals with the clinical aspects of muscular dystrophy and is followed by an excellent review of present biochemical knowledge in this field. Myasthenia gravis is similarly considered in two lectures. In chapters on neuropathies the toxic effects of a variety of substances constituting industrial or therapeutic hazards, such as organophosphorus compounds, thalidomide, tetraethyl lead, and methanol are discussed, and a further two contributions deal with diabetic neuropathy. Other lectures are concerned with hypoglycaemia, the clinical and biochemical aspects of head injuries and demyelinating diseases: depressive states and genetic mental disorders are each the subject of two contributors.

Each chapter includes a useful and up-to-date bibliography and there is an excellent index.

These lectures by clinicians and scientists, who are recognized authorities in their respective fields, make a most stimulating, informative and readable book, which supplements and amply maintains the high standards set by the first volume of the series.

G. R. WEBSTER


This book contains the contribution to a symposium of the Society for the Study of Inborn Errors of Metabolism, held at Liverpool in September 1964. The contents indicate clearly the impressive advances made in recent years in knowledge of the biochemical aspects of mental defect. Studies are described on conditions such as phenylketonuria and the aminoacidurias in which an isolated enzymatic defect is present; the problems of dietary treatment of these rare biochemical disorders of mental handicap are also discussed. Other contributions...
deal with mongolism and infantile autism showing more
generalized metabolic abnormalities.

Detailed biochemical data in numerous tables and
figures, together with simple diagrams of metabolic path-
ways affected in some of the conditions, add greatly to the
value of this very useful and readable little book.

PSYCHOANALYSIS AND CURRENT BIOLOGICAL THOUGHT
Edited by N. S. Greenfield and W. C. Lewis. (Pp. x +
380. $8.00) Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
1965.

This symposium, organized by the University of Wis-
consin in 1963, does not live up to the promise of its title.
The editors believe that psychoanalytic theory has
'enormous power', and significantly tell us that all the
participants were asked to consider the sorts of pheno-
mena that led Freud to formulate the 'Project for a
Scientific Psychology' in which he tried to fuse his theory
of the neuroses with neurophysiological facts and specu-
lations. There is a great deal of psychoanalysis, therefore,
in this book, a fair amount of psycho-physiology, and
practically nothing about etiology, genetics, and the
whole broad field of social biology. The contributors are
more concerned with hastening 'the stately pace of
change in psychoanalysis' and getting it out of its 'danger-
ously encapsulated position' and its 'danger of wholesale
rejection', than with a strict review of the fundamental
issues raised by the mind-body problem in the light of
current knowledge. There are, however, thoughtful and
suggestive papers, like those of Pribram, Holt, Margolin,
and Snyder.

SIGMUND THE UNSERENE A Tragedy in Three Acts By
Percival Bailey, with a foreword by Roy R. Grinker,
Sr. (Pp. xvii + 127. $5.75.) Springfield, Illinois:

Seldom has a book been so deplorably mis-titled. Dr.
Bailey has written not a catch-penny jeu d'esprit but a
serious, detailed and penetrating study of the weaknesses
in Freud. He has inevitably found it impossible to separ-
ate the man from his thought and writings. The present
volume contains the lectures delivered by Dr. Bailey at
North Western University as an amplified version of
the Academic Lecture read before the American Psychiatric
Association in 1956. His motive, he tells us in his pro-
logue, is not animus against Freud but a determination
to cut down 'the overweeningly hypertrophied and dis-
torted influence which his movement has attained in
these United States. . . . In this way it has, in my opinion,
done great damage to psychiatry as well as to our civiliza-
tion in general'.

The book is divided into three sections, dealing with
the periods 1856-1897; 1897-1923; 1923-1939. Dr. Bailey
is clearly exasperated by the adulation and unquestioning
acceptance which he detects in the attitude of psycho-
analysts towards Freud, and this colours his somewhat
embittered criticism. He has been, as his psychoanalyist
friend Dr. Grinker says in his Foreword, disillusioned on
finding that psychoanalysis is not a philosophy nor a
rewarding faith, 'neither a good science nor, for many
patients, a successful therapy'. This attitude is buttressed
with religious and other references springing from very
extensive reading. The main interest of the book is, how-
ever, its relentless emphasis on Freud's feet of clay. No
doubt it would benefit from being more urbane and
balanced, but to be urbane and balanced is not the way
with angry iconoclasts. The book deserves to be closely
read, especially by psychoanalysts (who can then winnow
its contents).

AKUTE PSYCHISCHE BEGLEITERScheinungen KÖRPER-
LICHER KRANKHEITEN By Manfred Bleuler, Jürg Willi,
and Hans Büchler. (Pp. 208; illustrated. DM. 38.)

Two-thirds of this informative book is devoted to Dr.
Willi's report on the phenomenology and pathogenesis of
exogenous psychoses in patients with physical disease.
The book also contains a learned introductory exposition
by Professor Bleuler of the present status of Bon-
hoeffer's classical account of the exogenous reaction-
type, and a 50-page supplementary study by Dr. Bühler
of the psychological changes that occur when death is
impending.

Dr. Willi collected 100 cases of delirium, twilight state,
and confusion in the medical wards of a general hospital,
and 200 case records of patients with delirium in a
psychiatric hospital. He interviewed the former group
and their relatives, with particular reference to their
personality and psychiatric history. His findings run
counter to some standard assumptions. Thus the exo-
genous psychosis revealed features of personality which
were not by any means exaggerations of the normal
personality traits but seemed rather to be alien to the
affected person. Similarly the exogenous psychoses of
schizoid and schizophrenic subjects mostly showed no
schizophrenic features; it was rare for a schizophreniform
psychosis to develop within the framework of an acute
exogenous psychosis. A further refutation of common
psychiatric opinion was afforded by Dr. Willi's study of
the influence of heredity in these conditions: he found no
support for the assumption that there is an inherited
constitutional disposition to develop an exogenous
psychosis when affected with a severe physical disease.
Advancing years, drugs, chronic disease, and alarming
catastrophes appear to be important predisposing or
precipitating factors.

ALLGEMEINE PSYCHOPATHOLOGIE 8th edition By Karl
Jaspers. (Pp. xv + 748. DM.56.) Berlin: Springer
Verlag. 1965.

In the foreword to the latest edition of this truly classical
work, Professor Jaspers, now over 80, reflected that he
was no longer in a position to bring it up to date by
including the products of psychiatric and physiological
research over the last two decades but that the basic
method and organization of the material had stood the
test of time. In this his judgment was certainly not at
fault. Until 1962 it was not available in an English
version, but fortunately readers in this country now have
at their disposal a good translation, from which they can
acquaint themselves with one of the great texts of
psychiatry.
CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENTAL NEUROPSYCHIATRY

Paul Schilder’s wife and collaborator, Dr. Lauretta Bender, has collected and edited these studies of child development, which had already been published in numerous articles and books but never brought together to give an organized, coherent picture of Schilder’s thoughts and findings in this area. The papers are grouped so as to cover, in turn, primitive perception; the body image; personality; language and thought; motility; aggression; and clinical considerations. As always, Schilder is bold in his efforts at synthesizing psychoanalytic, psychological, psychiatric, and neurophysiological findings, so that even when unconvincing, his views stimulate the reader and disclose a remarkable range of interests and erudition.


There have been many reports in recent years on the favourable response of chronic schizophrenics to enlistment in group activities and to the display of personal attention and encouragement by doctors, nurses, social workers, and others. Success has been most remarkable with the neglected patients in the custodial care of chronic wards. The conclusions generally drawn have been that these results are a challenge to hospital administrators to replace purely custodial measures by more active regimes which require greater initiative and more social interactions from patients. The author of this book does not come to the same conclusions. He presents us with a well-edited and readable account of the meetings he had four times a week for many months, an hour each time, with two groups of schizophrenic patients in a mental hospital near Aberdeen. One group consisted of 12 female patients who were recent admissions and were also treated with shocks and tranquilizers. The members of the other group were six chronic male patients who had been in hospital for many years and whose prognosis, in the appraisal of the Physician Superintendent of the hospital, ranged from poor to very poor. Their favourable response to this treatment is interpreted by the author, who is a theologian by profession, in the terminology of theistic existentialist writers, especially Martin Buber and Paul Tillich. The result is a high-sounding discourse whose meaning is ‘trans-rational’. It could indeed be hardly anything else, for a rational analysis of the essence of things is the very antithesis of an analysis of their mere existence. For the same reason, there can be no school of existentialism. There are only existentialists. Some aim at the liberalization of the individual from collective influences through the medium of an ‘existential crisis’: the encounter with the solitude and dread of the nothingness of death; some see salvation in the I-Thou relatedness of a social being-with-others; some are atheistic (Nietzsche, Sartre); and some are theistic. The author’s main message is for his fellow theologians: they should become involved in the human predicament of schizophrenic patients and lead them ‘to a new awareness of the self-world relation, to a new discovery of ultimate values, and to a new experience of the divine determining Centre of all being’.


In much modern writing on psychiatry, there is a tendency to ignore, and even to deny, the existence of a distinction between the symptoms and signs of psychiatric disease on the one hand and the personality traits and attitudes of the patients on the other. One of the main objects of this book was to test the possibility and desirability of making such a distinction. The authors applied a personality test, designed to measure hysteroid-obssessoid traits, to psychotic patients who were also requested to complete a symptom-sign inventory. They found that the results of these two tests were more or less independent. The occurrence of a particular personality type can thus be no guide to a psychiatric diagnosis. Personality features were found to be more enduring than clinical symptoms. The results obtained support the usual clinical practice of basing the clinical assessment of patients on both their personality and their psychiatric diagnosis.

From the findings with the symptom-sign inventory, it was inferred that differential diagnoses between psychiatric diseases are purely arbitrary. It seems that there is essentially only one kind of psychiatric disease, namely, a failure to establish and to maintain interpersonal relations. The degree of this failure was variable, and this permitted a division of psychiatric diseases into four major categories. They were in ascending order of severity of interpersonal failure: personality disorder (or psychopathy), personal illness (or neurosis), integrated psychosis (manic-depression and paranoid states), and non-integrated psychosis (non-paranoid schizophrenia).

An interesting chapter is devoted to the examination of the response of a group of chronic neurotic patients to the running of a hospital ward as a therapeutic community. The patients who reacted favourably expressed the opinion that their improvement was due to the interaction with other patients rather than to their contact with the medical and nursing staff of the hospital. The authors therefore offer the advice that ‘more professional endeavours should go into selecting the appropriate people with whom to bring the patient into contact’ when he is admitted to hospital.


Every psychiatrist has patients who fail to respond symptomatically to any form of treatment. Over years of outpatient attendance their growing folders contain reports of treatment by a multitude of drugs, by E.C.T., and by many kinds of psychotherapy. Most doctors are glad to forget these patients who are living reminders of
the production of anxiety under hypnosis is accompanied by an appreciable rise in plasma hydrocortisone level. In reviewing their experiments the authors show laudable caution and sophistication; subsequent investigations will be able to profit from the technical and methodological points which they have clarified.


Until the latter part of the nineteenth century, hypnotic treatment simply meant suggesting to the patient, directly or indirectly, that his symptoms would improve. With Mesmer such suggestion was indirect, being implied in the whole frenetic setting of the encounter between patient and magnetist, but by the time Liébeault and Bernheim were publishing their reports from Nancy, direct suggestion was the very essence of hypnotherapy. In the west the Nancy teaching had only brief ascendency; as the influence of psycho-analysis increased, the removal of symptoms was considered to be ill-judged and hypnosis was regarded as dangerously loaded with erotic arousal.

In America attempts have recently been made to rehabilitate it, and in this movement Dr. Schneck has played a distinguished part. His intention has been to show that modern hypnotic treatment, far from being the crude didactic business known to Bernheim, employs the sophistications of psycho-analysis: proper understanding of transference and counter-transference and skill in interpretation are, he insists in this monograph, essential to the practical of "hypnoanalysis".

Glancing back at history, however, one wonders what part suggestion plays in this latter-day hypnotherapy, a question which Schneck, despite a scholarly historical introduction, does not sufficiently explore. He tells us, for instance, that treatment of a cat phobia involved the patient in the discovery that the animal was "the concept of the phallic mother". Such an interpretation purports to uncover specific psycho-dynamics, but is it covert suggestion? Bernheim is banished, but Mesmer still lurks in the shadows.

GRIFFITH EDWARDS


Psychopharmacological conferences, generously supported by drug firms through the agency, or at the request, of university departments, are a common feature of the psychiatric scene. At most of them nothing new or arresting is said, though the proceedings are subsequently published in full in a well-edited volume. The Franco-Swiss conference here reported, which was held last year in Lyons, is much less pharmacological and more psychopathological than is usual; this might be expected since the main theme was the doctor-patient relationship in chemotherapy, a topic which invites psychodynamic reflections rather than chemical or physiological exposition. The conclusion drawn from the papers and round-
Book reviews

M. G. Gelder

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