table discussion was that the organic and the psycho-
dynamic approaches need to be integrated. It might also
be concluded that a mountain of words on a psychiatric
topic sometimes gives birth to a mouse.

THE WILD BOY OF AVEYRON By Jean-Marc Itard. Trans-
lated by G. and M. Humphrey. (Pp. 104.) New

This psychiatric classic records one of the most dramatic
examples of an erroneous theory leading to a valuable
experiment and deduction. The feral boy whom Itard
hoped to re-train in human ways turned out to be a
defective whom he could educate: what had been in-
tended as a test of Candilacc’s philosophic theory became
an anticipation of Séguin’s practical measures. The un-
affected enthusiasm and benevolence of Itard is well
conveyed by his frank narrative, here admirably
translated.

SCHIZOPHASIE IN LINGUISTISCHER DEUTUNG By von Horst
Flegel. Monographien ans dem Gesamtbereich der
DM. 38) Berlin: Springer Verlag. 1965.

Disorders of thinking in schizophrenics have been much
studied in Anglo-American psychiatry, disorders of
speech much less so, though it is through his speech that
the patient’s abnormal mode of thinking is revealed.
German and French psychiatrists have given much
attention to the linguistic anomalies in schizophrenia,
and the term ‘schizophrenia’ was adopted by Kraepelin
under the influence of Kleist and Bleuler, to describe an
typical late stage of schizophrenia in which speech is
impenetrably confused, yet the patient’s manner, gestures,
and intonation seem normal. Dr. Flegel bases his study
on three such patients. He uses the concepts and methods
of linguistic analysis with much attention to grammatical
structure, meaning, and expression. His monograph is
hard going: but as he points out in his Preface the
material he has to work on is stubborn.

ATTITUDE AND ATTITUDE CHANGE. THE SOCIAL JUDGMENT—
INvolVEMENT APPROACH By C. W. Sherif, M. Sherif,
and R. E. Nebergall. (Pp. xxii + 264. 58s.) London:
Sauders. 1965.

This monograph from the Oklahoma Institute of Group
Relations is a learned and solid contribution to a vague
subject. The authors do their utmost to penetrate and
dispel the vagueness. They define their concepts, adduce
their own extensive research observations and studies,
and apply quantitative methods of analysis. The findings
have an obvious relevance to many problems that are of
contemporary interest, from market research to health
education. But the merits of the book are also, for medical
and other non-psychologist readers, its demerits. It is
severely technical in its terminology, and consequently
it is hard going. The struggle to become familiar with its
language and methods is, however, rewarding, especially
for those engaged in studying the social problems of
disease and rehabilitation in the community.

AUBREY LEWIS

PSYCHOTHERAPIE DE GROUPE ET PSYCHODRAME By J. L.
Moreno. Traduit de l’allemand par Jacqueline Rouault-
Dellencbach. Traduit de l’anglais et revu par Anne
Anselin-Schützenberger. (Pp. xii + 469; 2 figures.

Dr. Moreno has been a prolific writer on group treat-
ment, psychodrama, and sociometry. The contents of
this book (translated from German) are already well
known from his writings in English. The mixture of
seminal ideas, techniques, clinical records, and religio-
philosophical theory make a characteristic, curiously
personal document, which scarcely fits into any of the
familiar categories of medical or psychological literature.

AUBREY LEWIS

THE BRITISH MENTAL HOSPITAL SYSTEM By David J. Vail.
(Pp. xxi + 114. $6.50) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C.
Thomas. 1965.

Dr. Vail, who is Director of Medical Services in Min-
nesota, is a shrewd and fair-minded inquirer. He has done
his best, by personal contacts and study of suitable
reports, to find out how our psychiatric services work,
and his account deserves the praise Dr. Maxwell Jones
gives it in his tactful foreword. It is clear that Dr. Vail
was puzzled and intrigued by the urbanity which, on the
surface at any rate, characterized personal relations in
hospitals and seemed to ensure the avoidance of open
clashes, public rows, and blunt action in ‘hiring and
firing’. Inevitably there are in the book some errors
(Dr. Maxwell Jones refers to these and gently corrects
them) and some minor misunderstandings: we are told,
for example, that the 23 members of the Oxford Regional
Hospital Board total 106 letters after their names, ‘better
than an average of four per person’ and that this is a ‘way
of measuring social standing in Britain’. But even British
readers will find the description of our system informative
seen through an intelligent visitor’s eyes.

PSYCHIATRIC NURSING By D. Madison, P. Day, and B.
Leabeter. 2nd Edition. (Pp. xi + 511; 38 figures. 40s.)

The appearance of a second edition of this Australian
textbook so soon after the first is testimony to its deserved
success. Within a compact volume the authors have
managed to weave together an adequate outline of the
clinical phenomena of the different forms of mental
illness, a simple and convincing account of the successive
stages of normal emotional development, an unbiased
description of the many different therapeutic philosophies
and techniques in current use, and much sound advice on the
management of the mentally ill. The authors’ con-
ception of psychiatry is broad and eclectic and there is a
refreshing emphasis on the patient as a person with
emotional and social problems rather than as a case or
an inmate. The text is clear and the cartoons a useful
incentive to continue reading. The authors’ warning
against the use of E.C.T. as a punishment, and their
comment that handcuffs and such like are rapidly passing
out of favour have rather alarming implications. Pre-
sumably they know their public. Let it be hoped that by
the time their third edition appears such warnings will no
longer be necessary.
PSYCHOTHERAPIE DE GROUPE ET PSYCHODRAME

Aubrey Lewis

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