

components of speech disorders. They also present some neatly designed experiments on memory disturbance in aphasia and summarize much of the relevant work in the field of speech disturbance. This is at the same time a most useful reference book and also a source of creative speculation for both clinical and research workers.

FREDA NEWCOME

SENSORINEURAL HEARING PROCESSES AND DISORDERS

Proceedings of the 16th Henry Ford Hospital International Symposium held in Detroit, Michigan, March 25, 26, and 27, 1965. Edited by A. B. Graham. (Pp. xvi + 543; illustrated. \$19.00) J. & A. Churchill Ltd: London. 1967.

The subject matter of this symposium covers virtually every aspect of the discipline of audiology as currently practised. Sixty-one specialists contributed 37 papers nicely organized under five general headings. So diverse and rich is the material, that the talents of Hallowell Davis, Raymond Carhart, and Harold Schucknecht were well-used for the three formal summaries which appear at the end. Would-be editors of proceedings such as these stand to learn much from the splendid job performed by A. Bruce Graham of the Henry Ford Hospital.

The most refreshing thing about this volume is the brevity (and in most instances the clarity) with which each topic is handled. Many of the contributors had gone on record with similar material before the date of this conference; no matter, there is here the novelty of concise presentation to be enjoyed. In like manner, the open discussion which follow upon every few papers of closely related content are kept short and usually to important points. Any member of the medical or related professions could find occasion to refer to this book and such reference would certainly prove worthwhile. Unless such occasions were to arise frequently, however, the cost of the volume and its status as a speciality item make it difficult to recommend for general personal acquisition. It is good, nonetheless, to know of its existence.

JAMES H. DEWSON

INTERDISCIPLINARY TOPICS IN GERONTOLOGY Vol. I.

Psychological Functioning in the Normal Aging and Senile Aged. Edited by Sheila S. Chown and K. F. Riegel. (Pp. x + 153; illustrated. 63s.) S. Karger: Basel, London and New York. 1968.

This volume contains papers and discussions from a colloquium held in Austria in June 1966. Investigations into learning functions at various ages are reported, using psychological tests such as verbal paired-associates, dichotic listening, memory for designs, perceptual mazes, and digit-substitution. The results are of interest, but of greater interest is the use of a variety of tests that were introduced for the investigation of learning in normal subjects, and which are now being extended to patients with intellectual changes from old age or from cerebral lesions. The increasing refinement of learning tests as exemplified in this volume should lead to considerable advances in our understanding of memory impairment in patients with cerebral disease.

THE CAUSES OF BLINDNESS IN CHILDHOOD By G. R. Fraser and A. I. Friedmann. (Pp. xvii + 245. \$12.00.) Johns Hopkins: Baltimore. 1967.

This volume records the results of an investigation carried out in 1963 of 776 children registered as blind or partially sighted in England and Wales. This amounts to almost one-quarter of the total number of blind children on the Register, and the size of the group, together with the extensive social, medical, and family information obtained, in addition to the ophthalmological examination itself, makes this investigation a unique and most valuable landmark in the study of the aetiology of childhood blindness. The various clinical subdivisions—for example, choroido-retinal degenerations, optic atrophy, retinoblastoma—are considered in separate chapters, and the parts played in each by genetic and environmental causes operating in pre-, peri-, and post-natal life, are separately assessed. The full data are clearly set out in a number of appendices. A careful analysis of the data is also presented; it is remarkable how far an accurate classification can now be reached, even with the current paucity of knowledge about the underlying biochemical lesions in most genetically-determined disorders affecting the eye. The conclusions of this survey are too numerous to list in a review; one finding, indicative of the great heterogeneity in causes of blindness, is that there are more than 50 independent single-gene abnormalities involved.

This book, with its clear and accurate record of the children studied, and its valuable consideration of the scattered literature on the subject, will be essential for many years for all those, including the neurologist, who are concerned with work on the problem of childhood blindness. It can be warmly recommended.

ELEMENTS OF MEDICAL GENETICS By A. E. H. Emery. (Pp. ix + 247; 44 figures, 11 tables. 35s.) E. & S. Livingstone: Edinburgh and London. 1968.

This book is designed as an introduction to human genetics for students of medicine and biological sciences. A historical introduction is followed by sections on the chemical basis of inheritance, chromosomes, developmental genetics, single-gene disorders, genetic factors in common disorders, pharmacogenetics, population genetics, radiation, and genetic counselling. The information is accurate and attractively presented. Professor Emery has provided an admirable introduction to human genetics. Most important of all, it holds the reader's interest, and should do much to attract the attention of the student to genetics in a formative stage of his training.

EARLY EXPERIENCE AND BEHAVIOR Edited by G. Newton and S. Levine. (Pp. xii + 785; 30 figures, 25 tables. \$28.50.) Thomas: Springfield, Illinois. 1968.

In their preface to this book the editors define its purpose as '... a discussion of research carried out to determine the relationships between specific independent and dependent variables in the general area now widely known as *early experience*, a term spotlighting the role of nurture in shaping the infant's future response characteristics'. The 18 chapters—all but two by

American workers—cover the very wide spectrum now required by this inter-disciplinary area of inquiry. Thus the reader must be prepared for such concepts as imprinting, deprivation, handling, and critical periods to be discussed in relation to such topics as cholinesterase, corpus luteum, classical conditioning, or copulatory behaviour. Most of the material is presented clearly and with authority, but it is noticeable that very few of the references extend beyond the early 1960s. In a rapidly developing field this would seem to indicate an undue delay between the completion of the manuscripts and the date of publication—a factor to bear in mind when considering the purchase of so expensive a volume.

THE POSTNATAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUMAN CEREBRAL CORTEX, Vol. VIII. *The Cortex of the Six Year Child*. By J. LeRoy Conel. (Pp. 306; illustrated. 190s.) Harvard University Press: Cambridge, Mass. 1967. The first volume of this well-known series appeared in 1941 and was concerned with the brain of the newborn child, while the last—the seventh volume—was concerned with the brain of the 4-year-old child. The present volume is, therefore, of special interest as the changes observed in relation to those reported in volume 7 have occurred at a period of development in which the mental processes are developing with great rapidity.

CLINICAL PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY By Michael Shepherd, Malcolm Lader, and Richard Rodnight. (Pp. xiv + 306; 30 figures, 6 tables; 50s.) The English Universities Press: London. 1968.

This important new book may be expected to become a valued work of reference to what is now known of psychotropic compounds. The presentation, which is clear and authoritative, includes nearly 1,300 references. Neurologists and psychiatrists will find this most valuable.

DRUGS AFFECTING THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM Medicinal Research Series Vol. 2. Edited by A. Burger. (Pp. xv + 437; illustrated. 180s.) Edward Arnold: London. 1968.

This is an important volume edited by a leading authority and will certainly be a leading work of reference in this field of research.

SLEEP AND ALTERED STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS Edited by S. S. Kety, E. V. Evarts, and H. Williams. (Pp. xii + 591; 211 figures, 25 tables. £11 15s.) Williams and Wilkins: Baltimore. (E. & S. Livingstone: Edinburgh and London). 1967.

The study of sleep constitutes common ground for physiologists, psychologists, neurologists, and psychiatrists. Many of the advances in this field have been made by North American workers who constitute the bulk of contributors to this excellent, though very expensive, volume. In addition, it contains two impressive chapters from European investigators: one by Jouvet on neuropharmacological mechanisms, the other by Pompeiano on neuropsychological mechanisms. The material presented amply supports Donald Hebb's verdict on the subject: 'Even our present statements about sleep, much

more sophisticated than those of twenty years ago, will look grossly oversimplified twenty years in the future, at the present rate of research.'

PERIPHERAL NERVE REGENERATION USING NERVE GRAFTS By L. Marmor. (Pp. xi + 107; illustrated. \$6.75.) Thomas: Springfield, Illinois. 1967.

This book is concerned with the preparation and use of grafts in peripheral nerve surgery; it presents the experience of one particular research team in these methods. Although there is a chapter entitled 'Peripheral Nerve Regeneration', this is misleading as no information about the normal course of regeneration is given.

Since few of the human nerve grafts described by the author were successful, this must be regarded as an interim report on an extremely difficult surgical procedure. We wish the author every success in the future.

While this monograph contains valuable information about the technique of grafting, the reader should not expect to find in it any information of a more general sort about the processes of peripheral nerve degeneration and regeneration, or about the surgery of peripheral nerve lesions, other than those which require a graft to span a large defect.

PSYCHIATRE DER GEGENWERT, FORSCHUNG UND PRAXIS Band 1/1A: Grundlagenforschung zur Psychiatrie. Edited by H. W. Gruhle, R. Jung, W. Mayer-Gross, and M. Müller. (Pp. xxiv + 1,216; 222 figures. DM 185.) Springer: Berlin. 1967.

With this gigantic volume, the ambitious plan which Gruhle, Jung, Mayer-Gross, and Müller set before themselves in 1960 is completed. Unlike its famous predecessors—'Aschaffenburg' and 'Bumke'—this work has not aimed at exhaustive coverage, but at thorough exposition of the methods and results of recent research, developed since the publication of the encyclopaedic *Handbuch der Geisteskrankheiten* 30 years ago. The contributors, drawn from many countries, were shrewdly selected, and given generous space: one of them has no less than 600 pages on neurophysiology in the present volume. The editors were well aware that, with the current pace of research and therapeutic activity, such a work as this must very soon be out-of-date. It is a tribute to the quality of their contributors that there are no signs of obsolescence in it as yet.

Psychiatric genetics is in the expert hands of Professor Strömgren of Århus University. The writing of the section was completed in 1960: the rate at which knowledge has grown is illustrated by the fact that by 1964, when the final proofs were being corrected, it was necessary to add a 10-page supplement. The difficult subject of constitution was entrusted to Klaus Conrad of Gottingen; his presentation is refreshingly critical, and contains some characteristically bold and original ideas. A lengthy section by Professor Hassler of Frankfurt, is devoted to 'function neuro-anatomy' in its bearing on behaviour. Neuropathology, which occupied so great a place in Bumke's *Handbuch*, now has a mere 40 pages, but it is followed by Professor Richard Jung's

vast monograph on neurophysiology and psychiatry: this is a masterly review, made all the more valuable by Professor Jung's familiarity with clinical psychiatry, acquired before he devoted himself to neurophysiology. Contributions by Joel Elkes (in English) on behavioural pharmacology, and by Johannes Brengelmann on conditioned reactions and learning theories conclude this weighty volume.

The whole five-volume work, now available, has no real counterpart in other countries or languages, and it provides an indispensable source of information relevant to psychiatry in its multiple research and clinical aspects.

AUBREY LEWIS

BIOLOGICAL PSYCHIATRY. A Review of Recent Advances.

By J. R. Smythies (with collaboration from Alec Coppen and Norman Kreitman). (Pp. viii + 112; 21 figures, 6 tables. 30s.) William Heinemann Medical Books: London. 1968.

This slim volume contains a wealth of up-to-date information presented in readable form and with critical appraisal. The current status of schizophrenia in its genetic, psychosocial, and biochemical aspects is reviewed with the conclusion that here we have a condition which may result from a number of causes, present in varying degrees. The position with regard to manic-depressive illness is similarly reviewed with abundant references.

A further chapter is concerned with plans for future research in psychiatry with emphasis laid on the still unsatisfied need for an agreed nosology and accuracy of diagnosis, the development of community psychiatry, and the extension of biochemical and pharmacological studies. In particular the study of the mode of action of hallucinogens as a model for psychiatric illness is fully discussed.

A contrasting and particularly interesting chapter is that in which the theoretical basis of psychoanalysis is considered with the conclusion that the facts it has brought to light must be related to the newer concepts of the behavioural sciences, which should replace classical psychoanalytical theory.

The book is a valuable addition to current psychiatric literature and well worth its not unreasonable price.

THE PSYCHIATRIST: PERSONALITIES AND PATTERNS By W. Freeman. (Pp. x + 293; illustrated. \$6.75.) Grune and Stratton: London and New York. 1968.

The personalities loom a great deal larger in this lively book than the patterns. Thumbnail sketches of men somewhat arbitrarily selected as prominent in psychiatry or psychoanalysis during this century are followed by a short account of Benjamin Rush and Weir Mitchell, and a record of families who have produced a well-known psychiatrist in three or four successive generations. The biographical accounts are unconstrained and sometimes as trivial as a gossip-column. The chapters on 'Personality Patterns of Psychiatrists' hardly justify the title, but do contain interesting statistical and other data on Board examinations, professional societies, technical journals, and poems by psychiatrists (including one by Dr. Freeman himself). Apropos poetry, he makes the odd assertion that 'creativity is found in many, if not all physicians'. A

final chapter enumerates psychiatrists who have committed suicide, and incidentally makes (on the authority of a well-known English psychiatrist) the quite erroneous statement that two professors of psychiatry in England committed suicide. In this final section, and elsewhere in the book, Dr. Freeman's misgivings about psychoanalysis are given fairly free play in spite of his efforts to keep, and show, a judicial balance.

Dr. Freeman made a prominent place for himself as the chief exponent of leucotomy in the United States while that treatment was in vogue; through this, and his valued activities in connection with the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, he is well placed to discuss with intimate knowledge many of the topics raised in his book. It is a pity that he has put his reminiscences and opinions in such a disjointed and casual form.

ORIGINS OF MODERN PSYCHIATRY By E. Harms. (Pp. xiv + 256. \$7.75.) Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, Illinois. 1967.

This book contains twenty-eight chapters, a number of which are based on articles which have been published elsewhere. The topics are varied, some being treated much more thoroughly than others. Dr. Harms is a man with strongly held views: witness the longest chapter which he entitles 'Carl Gustav Jung: Defender of Freud and the Jews'. At the same time his discussion of such early figures as Scheidemantel, Tissot, Heinroth, and Beneke may well serve to stimulate the interest of many readers who are unfamiliar with the roots of contemporary psychiatric thinking.

GUIDE TO PSYCHIATRY By Myre Sim. (Pp. xi + 1055. 17 figures, 3 tables. 60s.) 2nd. ed. E. & S. Livingstone: Edinburgh and London. 1968.

This is a second edition of a book which has already made its mark. There is much to commend: the style is readable, the contents are surprisingly comprehensive, and the author has provided a large, wide-ranging list of references. Dr. Sim has a definite opinion on most topics and a jackdaw's eye for quotations. He will surely instruct and stimulate most of his readers, and provoke not a few to disagreement. Perhaps no more can be expected of a medium-sized, reasonably priced textbook of psychiatry.

THE REACH OF MIND Edited by Marianne L. Simmel. (Pp. xii + 300; illustrated. \$9.00.) Springer: New York. 1968.

The fashionable concept of neuropsychology is well illustrated by the work of the late Kurt Goldstein. This volume contains a group of essays in his memory and appropriately covers topics as diverse as 'Studies on the Inductive Influence of Head Posture on Various Functions in Unilateral Disequilibrium' and 'The Structure of Experimental Thought'. As is so often the case in a book of this type, the quality of the essays is patchy, but they should serve to stimulate interest in the contributions of an original scientist and philosopher. It is to be hoped that many readers will then go on to consult some of the 328



Book reviews

Aubrey Lewis

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