The book is well written and each chapter contains typical examples. There is a complete bibliography of a subject which still presents additional difficulties which are not found in European or American psychiatry. One conclusion stands out: what we should regard as mentally abnormal is so regarded elsewhere and an ill-defined, but accepted standard of normality exists in all cultures and differs little from our own. The social and familial backgrounds of mental disease are very often impossible to obtain in field research.

The monograph should be of interest to all practising psychiatrists, for it adds a new dimension to their thought and practice.

MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES, MOTOR ABILITY AND THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN By Bryant J. Cratty, Namiko Ikeda, Sister Margaret Mary Martin, Clair Jennett, and Margaret Morris. (Pp. xi + 172; illustrated; \$9.75.) Thomas: Springfield. 1970.

This interesting small book is concerned with the ideas that children who suffer from motor handicaps have about themselves. The authors made a statistical study of children suffering from various types of disorders of voluntary movement and children who were normal, based on their answers to questionnaires.

They found that children with physical handicaps showed feelings of inferiority, particularly as regards games, compared with normal children and they attempted to qualify the differences in the attitudes they found.

The text is easy to read but the tables are unnecessarily complicated and complex, and the three essays which are added to the main study add little to its value. It will be of considerable interest to a limited number of doctors, therapists, and teachers who undertake the care of children who suffer from physical handicaps.

T. T. S. INGRAM

A FIRST GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY BOOK By E. L. Pinney. (Pp. xiii + 204; \$8.00.) Thomas: Springfield. 1970.

Dr. Pinney writes this introductory text on the basis of a decade's teaching of group therapy during which he has come to doubt the value of formulations derived from the psychoanalysis of individual patients. He regrets the lack of a scientific psychology of group processes and suggests that, for the present, one can usefully proceed on the basis of a simple theoretical model which assumes that character is moulded and maintained largely by social forces and that the 'microsociety' of the group can help the individual understand and modify his behaviour elsewhere. He is satisfied that group psychotherapy is worthwhile, particularly for those patients who have already shown some ability to tolerate severe neurotic symptoms, but he clearly views the treatment as supportive or palliative.

This is a straightforward descriptive account of group therapy which spells out the difficulties facing therapist and patient in beginning, maintaining and leaving a group. Verbatim excerpts of group sessions (with intercalated commentary by the author), which constitute half the book, give the novice a fair idea of what to expect when he faces the real situation.

R. N. HERRINGTON

BEHAVIOUR THERAPY IN THE 1970s Edited by L. E. Burns and J. L. Worsley. (Pp. 132. £2.00.) John Wright: Bristol.

This slim volume consists of the proceedings of a symposium held in 1969. In publishing these as a book the declared intentions of the organizers were 'to compensate for the general lack of formal training facilities' and to counter 'an ever-present risk that clinicians with an inadequate background in learning theory and experimental methodology may employ behaviour therapy methods based on faulty principles'. There can be little doubt that they have failed to achieve their aims. The conference must have been a lively one and the contributions of a very high calibre. It identified what are likely to be the 'growth points' in this field—for example, increasing use of psychophysiological measures, operant treatment of chronic schizophrenics, and treatment of obsessional disorders and more complex cases. However, the book contains little that is new to the relatively sophisticated reader and is not general enough for those for whom it was planned. It is also very expensive for a paper covered book and is unlikely to compete with the excellent Penguin book on the subject which is half the price and twice the length of this volume.

RAYMOND LEVY

SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE By R. R. Tilleard-Cole and J. Marks. (Pp. vii + 132; 55 figures; 5 tables; price not stated.) Roche Products: London. 1970.

This is a well-produced elementary outline aimed at those practitioners who wish to protect their knowledge of the neurological sciences against its natural decay. In 127 pages it covers the anatomy, biochemistry and physiology of the nervous system, the physiological mechanisms claimed to underlie motivation and learning, clinical psychiatry and the pharmacology of psychotropic drugs.

R. N. HERRINGTON

THE TRAINING OF PSYCHIATRISTS Proceedings of a Conference on Psychiatric Education. Edited by G. F. M. Russell and H. J. Walton. (Pp. v + 156; £1.80.) Royal Medico-Psychological Assn.: London. 1970.

While general and medical education have been undergoing a minor revolution, psychiatry has lagged behind. The creation of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and this meeting of distinguished psychiatric teachers are evidence of the current acute awareness of this deficiency. Areas covered included demand for psychiatrists, educational objectives (so sadly lacking in much of medical teaching), methods, curricula, and administrative requirements. Neurology remains secure against competing medical disciplines.

An informative section on entrants reports that the medical school and its teaching have little influence on choice of specialist career. A capacity for comfortable relationships and emotional stability was desirable but only reflectiveness and a tolerance of ambiguity are significantly related to choosing psychiatry. The most valuable chapter is on assessments. Examinations just