table discussion was that the organic and the psychodynamic 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.


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 intended as a test of Candillac's philosophic theory became an anticipation of Seguin's practical measures. The unaffected enthusiasm and benevolence of Itard is well conveyed by his frank narrative, here admirably translated.


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 atypical 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 these 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.


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


Dr. Moreno has been a prolific writer on group treatment, psychodrama, and soma. 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


Dr. Vail, who is Director of Medical Services in Minnesota, 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.


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' conception 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. Presumably they know their public. Let it be hoped that by the time their third edition appears such warnings will no longer be necessary.


The cascade of books, articles, and reports of sympoasia on depression continues unabated. A few of the articles and sympoasia bring some new findings, but hardly any of the books justify their existence in this way. Dr. Pollitt's manual purports to introduce a new concept of classification, based on a new physiological theory; but what he tells us about the 'functional shift' and its implications hardly fulfills this promise. Dr. Hordern's book contains two main divisions: one reviewing the familiar literature of depression, especially in regard to its treatment, and the other describing the details and outcome of a clinical trial designed to compare amitriptyline and imipramine. Most of the latter material had already been reported in the journals. The relatively novel feature in his work is contained in the brief chapter on 'factor and discriminant function analyses'. It is questionable whether these statistical methods are necessary and appropriate to the elucidation of depressive phenomena, but in any case the outcome of the exercise was uninformative.

AUBREY LEWIS


Although there are now several good short texts of general psychiatry for the medical student, there is a paucity of suitable accounts of behavioural and personality development, and the authors' attempt to meet this need is welcome. Problems of feeding, aggression, self-identification, socialization, and crises of adolescence are among the topics discussed with ample illustrations from case histories. Useful summaries are included at the end of each chapter. Although psychoanalytic concepts receive the main emphasis, other viewpoints are given attention. The authors rightly emphasize that as parental care influences the child's temperamental development so the child's temperamental characteristics in turn partly determine the attitudes of the parents. The child's growth and development are seen in the context of an interaction between the child's individual endowment, family milieu, and cultural background. In view of this it is surprising to find no reference to some of the main longitudinal investigations, especially the New York study which has done much to develop these ideas. Throughout the book, descriptions tend to be rather general and it would be helpful to know more about how often various processes occur rather than to be given an account of the variety of things that may happen to the child. Similarly, even in an introductory text it would be useful to have a more explicit distinction between what is proven and what is supposition, together with references in the text. Nevertheless, the authors provide a reasonably balanced account and many will find the book a useful introduction to developmental psychiatry.

MICHAEL RUTTER


This massive work is composed of 49 essays on the various forms of deviant sexual behaviour, mainly by psychiatrists but in 10 cases by lawyers or sociologists. The subject is interpreted broadly, with essays on divorce, sexual deviation in non-sexual offences, prostitution, abortion, unmarried mothers, etc.; the articles on these peripheral subjects are often more stimulating than the others. The psychiatric views expressed are almost entirely psychoanalytic, and a great deal of space is devoted to the psychodynamic theories of aetiology. Some essays have little to say about incidence, social variations, criminal or psychological prognosis; others are more comprehensive. Although the volume, in spite of its size, shows how little is known about the origin and treatment of sexual disorders, it is hardly accurate to imply that knowledge has stood still in the 50 years since Freud and his immediate followers enlivened the scene. Only an occasional paragraph is devoted to the work of Kinsey, or to the newer biological, epidemiological, and criminological studies in the U.S.A., leaving aside important European work. Only a few short but interesting chapters are devoted to the great cultural variations in sexual behaviour, which are presumably central to the problem of the law.

On the whole, this is a disappointing book, limited and old-fashioned in outlook, but many essays are original and interesting, and it conveniently condenses a great deal of information. Set beside the recent book on sex offenders from the Kinsey Institute and the Cambridge Institute's study, it will provide the forensic psychiatrist or lawyer with a comprehensive review.

T. C. N. GIBBENS


The first edition of this work was reviewed here in 1962. The present edition takes account of papers subsequently published, describes a recently developed simple method of analysing sexual deviations, adds a section on biological characteristics and transvestism, and enlarges the survey of endocrine and cerebral findings which are relevant to the questions of pathology and aetiology. The book is a well organized repository of medical knowledge about homosexuality, to which the author has made notable original contributions.

AUBREY LEWIS