PATHOLOGIE DU LANGAGE By H. Hecaen and R. Angelergues. (Pp. 200; 16 figures.) Paris: Larousse. 1965.

For the student of aphasia, this is a useful handbook: an eclectic review of most of the theories and some of the clinical work in the field. It contains a lucid summary of congenital language disorders, the main clinical symptoms in aphasia, and the divergent theoretical approaches to the problem. The brief account of recent linguistic analyses and the section on dominance and sinistrality are of particular interest while the evaluation of anatomical and localization data is appropriately cautious. The authors suggest that there is adequate evidence to delineate the language zone and to consider aphasia as a specific deficit not necessarily accompanied by other forms of intellectual impairment. They accept the operational distinction between receptive and expressive defects and between oral and written language. Finally they raise two pertinent problems: the levels of organization involved in language and the role of verbal mediation in so-called symbolic activities. In the study of a subject that still qualifies for Head's label, chaos, it is valuable to be reminded of the need for detailed clinical study and heuristic thinking.

FREDA NEWCOMBE

HALLUCINATIONS ET RÉALITÉ PERCEPTIVE By H. Faure. (F. 18) Presses Universitaires de France. 1965.

The combination of metaphysical speculation and clinical observation is an intriguing, if hazardous, enterprise; Professor Faure's book is enlightening in this context.

The first section deals with the relationship of external and internal space in the hallucination. The theories of J. P. Sartre are summarized and considered unsatisfactory because unrelated to biological factors and clinical data. Those of the Gestalt school are invoked to elucidate both the mechanisms and content of hallucinations of which the distinguishing feature is taken to be their projection into the environmental spatial field.

The second part of the book deals with the content (the recurring religious and supernatural aspects and the ubiquitous phantom) and the 'plausibility' of hallucinatory material. There are random and unexpected references, e.g., Professor Eysenck and Comte de Redern who wrote in 1815 a monograph on the transmission of thought through magnetic fluid.

The final section introduces a new projective test in which patients are asked to construct a village from wooden units, some structured (houses, trees, bridges, etc.), others abstract, geometrical forms. The author derives from the examination of 800 protocols, themselves a rather insubstantial pageant as no quantitative data, scoring system, or tables are included, the pathognomic sign of the pylon: hallucinated subjects tend to erect vertical geometrical forms. The symbolic and archetypal significance of this anomaly can be successfully predicted by the reader.

The book is probably of more interest to the physician with an analytical background and indeed to the meta-physician than to the neurologist, for whom sensory deprivation experiments may hold more clues to the problem than M. Sartre. However, there are observations

of interest: that old memories may provide data for hallucinatory projections defined as 'les metamorphoses des enkystements perceptifs'.

FREDA NEWCOMBE

PERSONALITY AND PERSONAL ILLNESS By G. A. Foulds in collaboration with T. M. Caine. (Pp. xi + 344. 55s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1965.

This work gives an account of many years' experimental investigation into the classification of psychiatric disorders on the one hand, and personality types on the other hand, by means of questionnaires. Personality scores show less change with treatment than do the scores on a symptom-sign inventory which reflects psychiatric classification. Some readers may recoil at the hypothesis that the proposed classification of psychiatric disorders into personality disorder (psychopathy), personal illness (neurosis), integrated psychosis (mania, melancholia, and paranoia), and non-integrated psychosis (schizophrenia) represents a continuum that is anything more than a continuum of increasing degree of social incapacity. Otherwise this is a most attractive book, written with understanding, wit, and humility. It is a pleasure to read a work dealing with a subject of such central importance to the psychiatrist, and, furthermore, by a psychologist who obviously regards the psychiatrist as a fellow-worker rather than an enemy.

ALLGEMEINE PSYCHOPATHOLOGIE By Karl Jaspers. 8th edition (Pp. xv + 748. DM. 56.) Berlin: Springer. 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 By Paul Schilder. Edited by Lauretta Bender (Pp. xi + 407. 52s 6d) London: Tavistock Publications. 1965.

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.