

credit to have shown that the subject can be presented simply and concisely and discussed with elegance and clarity.

MINNESOTA TEST FOR DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF APHASIA
By Hildred Schuell. (Pp. 106; 100s. per set.)
Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 1966.

Many students of the brain consider that patients with disturbances of language function caused by focal brain disease provide wonderful opportunities to study the organization of cerebral mechanisms. The Minnesota battery of tests is well known to students of aphasia and here these (their latest revisions) are made available to all in a collection of the monograph, packs of test cards, and 25 score sheets.

The publication of this material is a most useful service to the neuropsychologist. The emphasis in the monograph is on diagnosis of the type of aphasia, but as this is often a somewhat academic exercise the reviewer expects these methods in their full complexity to appeal particularly to the research worker.

INFANTILE AUTISM By Bernard Rimland. (Pp. xi + 282. 36s.) London: Methuen. 1965.

The initial part of this book reviews the biological and psychological features of infantile autism. Psychodynamic explanations are attacked more vigorously than is necessary in this country where the constitutional aspects of psychiatric disorders are customarily given more attention than in the United States. It is suggested that the characteristic personality of parents of autistic children, intelligent, detached, cold, and free from psychiatric illness, is of significance not in psychogenesis but in determining a specific neurological abnormality, namely, an impairment of the hypothesized function of the reticular system as a coding system. It is suggested that in the autistic child only a small range of memory engrams is activated by sensory stimuli, with a corresponding limited range of responses: generalization and abstract thought are thereby rendered impossible. The remainder of the book develops and extends this concept of the function of the reticular system and its relevance to a theory of behaviour.

The author's conviction that infantile autism has a constitutional rather than a psychological cause leads him to be somewhat uncritical in accepting evidence in support of his theory: however, this approach is a novel and refreshing counterbalance to the psychodynamic one, and is a salutary reminder of the importance of a wide biological attack on all psychiatric problems, even those in which psychogenesis appears most plausible.

THE PHONETIC TEST AND THE MEASUREMENT OF HEARING
By J. C. Lafon. (Pp. xii + 247; 28 figures. 57s. 6d.)
Eindhoven: Centrex. 1966.

An interesting book, not always quite happily translated from the French, which imports into audiometry and its clinical applications a number of fresh elements from contemporary phonetics and psycholinguistics. It is a pity that the language is not always as precise as

the basic ideas require. But these ideas will have increasingly to be reckoned with in future by all who have to do with auditory function.

TEN STUDIES INTO PSYCHOPATHIC PERSONALITY By Michael Craft. (Pp. 133, 25s.) Bristol: John Wright and Sons Ltd. 1965.

This little book, competently written, contains much data about the problem of psychopathy. Interesting experiments of treatment and follow-up are described and attempts are made to assess factors relevant to the development of psychopathic personality disorders and devise prediction indices of outcome. The author states that the studies illustrate the continuum in personality disorder from normality through minor and common behaviour disorder to the most extreme and uncommon psychopath. His approach to eventual outcome is optimistic although adequate evidence is not cited to substantiate this statement. Dr. Craft does, however, admit that conclusions about treatment procedure require more stringent and longer term programmes and research assessment. There is an extensive bibliography and comments are well drawn from the field of previous investigators and the author's own investigative experience.

BERTRAM MANDEL BROTE

STUDIES ON PSYCHOSIS By T. Freeman, J. Cameron, and A. McGhie. (Pp. vii + 245. 35s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1965.

Despite Freud's cautionary pronouncements psychoanalysts have continued to focus their attention on the functional psychoses, and especially the schizophrenias. Some analysts have tried to explain these conditions, others to treat them. In this book the principal author professes himself to be chiefly interested in research. Many painstaking hours have gone into the detailed clinical material provided in the text, but while Dr. Freeman and his co-authors are evidently aware of other methods of investigation the case they advance for psychoanalysis as a research tool remains unconvincing on the evidence presented here.

PATTERNS OF MEANING IN PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS By I. M. Marks. (Pp. xvi + 144; illustrated. 55s.) London: Oxford University Press. 1965.

The nature of psychological malfunction in mental illness constitutes a difficult but potentially rewarding field of study. This book reports on an investigation designed to examine the possible relationships between the abnormal behaviour of obsessional and psychopathic patients and the meaning they attach to certain concepts. The technique of the semantic differential was applied to both groups of patients and to a control sample of subjects free from psychiatric disorder. Dr. Marks presents the statistical analysis of his complex data clearly and sifts the material with the care we have come to expect from the authors contributing to this series of monographs.

DÉS AFFÉRENTATION EXPÉRIMENTALE ET CLINIQUE Symposium Bel-Air II, Genève, Septembre 1964. Edited by Professeur J. de Ajuriaguerra. (Pp. 344; illustrated 80Fr.) Paris: Masson and Cie. 1965.

The second Bel-Air Symposium held at the University of Geneva in September, 1964, was devoted to the subject of deprivation syndromes. Some 25 distinguished physiologists, psychologists, and neuropsychiatrists from Europe and North America participated.

It might seem artificial to bring together topics as different as the experimental physiology of de-afferentation and the psychiatric effects of social and emotional deprivation, but the case for doing this is strongly argued and the quality of individual contributions is extremely high. Of the 10 papers presented, five dealt with experimental studies and the remainder with clinical problems. Although it was not possible to publish the discussion which took place at the end of each paper, participants were later asked to summarize their comments and these form a valuable addition to the book.

HYSTERIA: THE HISTORY OF A DISEASE By I. Veith. (Pp. xvi + 301; illustrated. 59s. 6d.) London: The University of Chicago Press. 1965.

'History', said Karl Jaspers of hysteria, 'reveals the basic phenomenon as the use of a mechanism which is in itself a constant (and in a minority of people appears as illness or hysterical giftedness) and which is pressed into the service of vastly differing cultural movements, aims and ideas.' For this reason the student of the condition must know something about social history as well as neurology, psychiatry, and general medicine: witchcraft, possession, and psychic epidemics take their place alongside dissociation, glove and stocking anaesthesia, and pseudo-cyosis. Dr. Veith has done well to compress so much relevant material into her book and to the non-specialist reader her chapter on 'Magic and the Supernatural in the Far East' will have the added attraction of the unfamiliar.

Perhaps, though, she is optimistic in suggesting that hysteria has run its course with the advent of psychoanalysis and that '... it was the intensified understanding of the cause of hysteria by leading psychiatrists during this century that contributed to the near-disappearance of the disease'. It is true that at the present time the diagnosis of hysteria is out of fashion in western medicine. It does not appear at all in the standard classification of mental disorders of the American Psychiatric Association and at least one prominent British psychiatrist has argued against its retention as a clinical label. But volcanoes can be deceptively quiescent and the varied and complex hysterical phenomena which have so often accompanied the explosions of human history in the past may well re-emerge in what is likely to be a troubled future.

AFFECT, COGNITION AND PERSONALITY. EMPIRICAL STUDIES
Edited by S. Tomkins and Carroll E. Izard. (Pp. xii + 464; illustrated. 60s.) London: Tavistock Publications. 1966.

The central place of emotion in psychopathology is uncontested, but little experimental work has been done to enlarge our precise knowledge. When Gustav Störing's contribution to the *Abderhalden Handbuch* in 1931 is compared with current studies of affect, it is evident that there has been lamentably little advance.

Dr. Tomkins, the moving spirit in the Symposium published here, puts forward in his Introduction the propositions that affects are the primary motive forces of man, that they are not private and visceral but communicated through facial responses, and that to measure them it is essential that their impact on cognition be measured also. He deplors the disproportionate attention usually bestowed on anxiety and anger, to the neglect of excitement, distress, contempt, shame, and surprise.

The contributors have diverse interests, but a common preference for measurement and objectivity; their papers are poorly integrated, but this, as Gardner Murphy points out in the Discussion, reflects the present state of research in affect. One of the most stimulating papers is that of Paul Ekman on communication through non-verbal behaviour; and one of the least consonant with the rest is C. E. Izard's on personal growth through group experience.

AUBREY LEWIS

GROUP THERAPY IN CHILDHOOD PSYCHOSIS By R. W. Speers and C. Lansing. (Pp. xviii + 186. 38s.) The University of North Carolina Press. 1965.

The greater part of this book is taken up with a descriptive account of an heroic attempt to treat five young psychotic children by a form of group psychotherapy which was carried on for a total of 828 hours over four years. Therapeutic groups were also organized for the mothers and the fathers of these children. The authors believe sufficiently in their activities to have started another project along similar lines. Unfortunately they provide the uncommitted reader with more evidence of their enthusiasm than of the therapeutic value of their undertaking.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY Vol. I. Series 4. (Yearly subscription \$20.) Published quarterly by

The International Science Press Inc., New York. This journal is planned to select and reprint significant articles from the world psychiatric literature, with summaries in six languages. Following each reprint are invited critical comments by other leading authorities in that field: since this is the sole excuse for reprinting articles already in the main readily accessible, these comments should be longer and invited from a wider field. There is one serious criticism: the reviewer selected one paper by Bleuler) from the number submitted for review (I, no. 4), and found that the original paper had not been reprinted, but that alterations had been made, mainly in phraseology, but in one instance altering the sense. This is inexcusable.

BOOKS RECEIVED

(Review in a later issue is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.)

DAS EXOGENE PARANOID-HALLUZINATORISCHE SYNDROM
By U. H. Peters. (Pp. vi + 106. Sw.F./DM 23.)
Basel and New York: S. Karger AG. 1967.

THE ROOTS OF THE EGO By C. Frankenstein. (Pp. xi + 286. 62s.) Baltimore: The Williams and Wilkins Co. 1966.