**Book reviews**

**APPLIED ELECTROMYOGRAPHY** By A. A. Marinacci. (Pp. x + 298; illustrated. 88s.) Henry Kimpton: London. 1968.

This is not a systematic treatise, being based on contributions to the *Bulletin of the Los Angeles Neurological Society*. The author has a wide experience which could have been helpful for beginners, but, unfortunately, the material is based on personal opinion and differs radically from the consensus. The illustrations are poor; it is not recommended.

*J. A. Simpson*


This is an excellent and up-to-date guide which can be confidently recommended to all students of clinical neurology. The author is to be congratulated on a first-class work.


This is a useful guide to those who wish to make a special study of the physiology and structure of peripheral nerves.

**CONGENITAL ANOMALIES OF THE CAROTID ARTERIES** By T. A. Lie. (Pp. x + 143; illustrated. 84s.). Excerpta Medica Foundation: Amsterdam. 1968.

This monograph describes the embryology of the cerebral blood vessels in man and illustrates the various anomalies of development which become evident during angiographic studies of the cerebral circulation.

**PSYCHOSOCIAL NURSING—STUDIES FROM THE CASSEL HOSPITAL** Edited by Elizabeth Barnes. (Pp. xx + 316. 27s. 6d. paper back, 63s. hardback.) Tavistock Publications: London

The Cassel Hospital is well known as an institution devoted exclusively to the treatment of patients by psycho-analytical means. Over the years there has been a change from a patient-centred orientation to a community-based approach in which both staff and patients find their role. This book is a series of essays by a number of staff members describing these changes as they have affected mainly the nursing staff. There seems to be an inordinate number of forewords, introductions, and editorial notes before one reaches the substance of the book, but once there it makes for interesting reading. Everything is, of course, seen in terms of the roles of individuals, and their interactions in the community, much being interpreted in analytical terms, but readers who are not particularly enamoured of the psycho-analytical approach will find much of value. For instance, the discussion about sedation explores the question as to when drugs are given for the benefit of the patient and when they are really being used to 'treat' the nurse in the sense of enabling her to tolerate the otherwise intolerable, a problem not confined to the wards caring for patients with psychoneuroses.

The sections on mothers and children in hospital will have wide appeal, as will that on the selection and training of nurses and relationships within the nursing hierarchy. It is not all of the selection procedures which will commend themselves to those choosing nurses for general training, but awareness of some of the problems will help to make those engaged in this task more critical of the time-honoured methods commonly employed.

The book, therefore, will have a wider appeal than to those immediately engaged in psychiatric nursing and could be read with profit by all engaged in nursing and all concerned with relationships in small communities.

*JOHN MARSHALL*


Britain may well claim to be one of the world leaders in community medicine, and psychiatry to be the leader in the field of medicine. This small book records a symposium held in London in November 1967. The speakers combine idealism with realism, and tell of their own difficulties and successes in this difficult area: Baker (Banstead) on psychiatric nursing in the community; Crumpton (Broadgate) on drugs; Early (Glenside) on the role of industry; Freeman (Salford) on the structure of the local authority and hospital service; May (Ministry of Health) on organization and efficiency; Silverman (Blackburn) on a comprehensive psychiatric service centred on a general hospital; and Whitehead (speaking of his work at Severalls) on the care of the aged. Each contribution is lively, stimulating, and informative, and the book can be unreservedly recommended as an introduction to a field of growing importance.

In parenthesis, the reviewer has developed over the years a facility in reading medical journals without seeing the advertisements; the sponsorship and organization of this symposium by E. R. Squibb and Sons together with the National Association for Mental Health, will keep the name of one drug firm favourably in his mind.


The book begins by reviewing the pharmacology of ethanol. Although this is primarily a reference book, the large amount of material is clinically and lucidly presented and each chapter has a helpful summary. The second portion of the book is devoted to the effects of ethanol when taken in combination with other substances. These vary from anticoagulants to antifreeze and a surprisingly large number of commonly used drugs have a different action when taken in combination with alcohol. There is a full bibliography and index.

Although on a very restricted topic, the book is admirably produced and contains much of interest to pharmacologists and physicians. It will be a useful reference book for those with toxicological or forensic problems.
MODERN PROBLEMS OF PHARMACOPSYCHIATRY Vol. 1: Clinical Psychopharmacology. Edited by F. A. Freyhan, N. Petrilowitsch, and P. Pichot. (Pp. x + 284; 26 figures, 27 tables. 130.) Karger: Basel and New York (London agents: Academic Press). 1968. A new journal International Pharmacopsychiatrie publishes original communications. The present volume is the first of a series that is an appendix to the journal and is designed to present more extensive monographs, often in borderline fields. In this first volume of the series, however, there are 18 papers, averaging less than 16 pages each, and it seemed to the reviewer that there was an unhappy compromise, the reviews being brief and not comprehensive, and often containing an account of personal research in a limited field that would more properly be presented in a journal. It will be a wealthy library that can embark on this series.

THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL MEDICINE By Alwyn Smith. (Pp. 221; 5 tables. 63s.) Staples Press: London. 1968. Most writers on social medicine are impelled to define their subject. For Professor Smith his discipline ‘... involves the study of health and disease at the community level and is thus distinct from clinical medicine which is concerned with problems of disease in individuals’. His book is divided into two parts: one concerned with principles and methods, the other with various areas of current inquiry. Taken together the fourteen chapters provide a clear, selective survey of modern epidemiological research which should be of help to students of social medicine.

NEUROPSYCHIATRY IN WORLD WAR II. Vol. I. Zone of Interior. Edited by R. S. Anderson. (Pp. xxxiv + 898; 65 figures, 16 charts, 67 tables. £7.50.) Published by Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army: Washington, D.C. 1966. This is an important and well-presented contribution to the official history of the Medical Department of the United States Army in the second world war. The vast organization required to deal with psychiatric casualties was developed with an efficiency which all must have admired—an epic achievement in military medicine.

DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING. II: DEVELOPMENT IN HUMAN LEARNING. By E. A. Lunzer and J. F. Morris. (Pp. xvii + 487; illustrated. 70s.) Staples Press: London. 1968. During the last ten years the balance of developmental psychology has shifted a great deal. Once mainly a descriptive field, it has now become a predominantly experimental one in which research workers attempt to explain developmental changes as well as to describe them. The book, which is edited by Drs. Lunzer and Morris and which is the second in a series of three, accurately reflects the current preoccupations of research psychologists who deal with children. It has chapters written by different authors on the relationship of development to such central experimental topics as perception learning and concept formation, and in each chapter hypotheses about developmental changes are discussed.

On the whole this book is a success, in that it shows quite clearly what developmental psychologists are up to at the moment. It can, however, be criticized on two quite serious counts. The first is that there is a general tendency among the authors to accept the most sketchy and questionable evidence without question: this is particularly evident in the opening chapter on perception, and also throughout the book wherever Piaget’s work is mentioned. The second is that there is a great deal of repetition between chapters—for example, the conservation experiments of Piaget are discussed in four different chapters by four different authors. This could have been a more incisive, a thinner, and a cheaper book.

DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING. III: CONTEXTS OF EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES. Edited by E. A. Lunzer and J. F. Morris. (Pp. xv + 312; 6 figures, 7 tables. 70s.) Staples Press: London. 1969. This volume is presented in two parts: a useful review of problems inherent in the development and measurement of intelligence, aptitude, and personality; and more speculative comment on the relevance of social factors in learning. It would be of interest to psychologists and education officers who work in a clinical setting.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY IN MENTAL RETARDATION By R. D. Eastham and J. Jancar. (Pp. vii + 356; 79 figures. 66s.) John Wright: Bristol. 1968. This book consists of a series of clinico-pathological synopses of the numerous conditions now known to be associated with mental subnormality. Clinicians and examination candidates should find it a useful volume as a reference. The authors—a psychiatrist and a clinical pathologist—have also provided an extensive bibliography.

CONCILIUM PæDOPSychiatricum Proceedings of the Third European Congress of Pedopsychiatry. Edited by K. Stutte and H. Harbauer. (Pp. xiv + 553. 170s.) Karger: Basel and New York (London agents: Academic Press). 1968. This expensive volume contains the proceedings of the Third European Congress of Pedopsychiatry. The papers, in four languages, are grouped into eight topics: the time factor and predisposition; pedagogical therapy and psychotherapy; somatic therapy; psychoses in oligophrenic subjects; psychotherapy and penology; mental hygiene and societies for mentally handicapped children; mental hygiene and the mass media; and a miscellaneous section. The quality of the communications varies widely, but there is something to interest most workers in the field.

ADECENT PSYCHIATRY. Proceedings of a Conference held at Douglas Hospital, Montreal, Quebec: June 20, 1967. Edited by S. J. Shamsie. (Pp. 84. Free of charge.) Shering Corporation: Pointe Claire, Quebec. 1968. This volume (available also in French) is published free, as a service to the medical profession, by Schering Corporation Limited (Pointe Claire, Quebec), an enterprise
in public relations that will commend the Corporation to many untouched by direct advertising. The conference was concerned with the personal experiences of psychiatrists—mainly in Canada—in setting up services for adolescents in need of psychiatric treatment and supervision. The problems encountered are well described, and there is a lively discussion on the question of the need for separate treatment facilities. Of special interest is the essay by Rakoff, with its analogy between the exploratory behaviour of a rat placed in a new cage and the adolescent exploring the adult world.


This large volume (paper covers) is well produced and has appeared admirably soon after the conference. The study of mental deficiency is now firmly based on a scientific approach; the papers presented here record encouraging progress and augur well for future advances.


This is the sixth edition of a well-known textbook which first appeared twenty-five years ago. During this time it has expanded in content, while remaining true to its subtitle, 'An Introduction to Psychiatry'. As befits former pupils of Adolf Meyer, the authors retain a common-sense approach to their subject which distinguishes their text from many of its rivals. The new reader may quickly capture something of its flavour from the three short sub-sections of the introductory chapter, entitled 'Some popular fallacies of the last sixty years,' 'Present position of psychiatry', and 'Difficulties of the student in psychiatry' (pp. 10-14). If these samples meet with approval, he will probably decide that the book is good value for money and hope that the next edition contains a chapter on child psychiatry.


Professor Mitscherlich has a strong sense of social responsibility, as has been plainly shown in his writings, and still more in his broadcasts. To celebrate his sixtieth birthday, this Festschrift has been produced by his friends and his colleagues at the Sigmund Freud Institute at Frankfurt, of which he is Director. Their contributions are clinical and social. They all adhere to the thorough-going psycho-analytical approach which Dr. Mitscherlich has advocated and exemplified in West Germany. He succeeded in implanting it within the University, first at Heidelberg and then at Frankfurt, where he is also financially supported by the Provincial Government. However, Professor Redlich of Yale points out, in his contribution to the Festschrift, that adequate public support will be denied to psycho-analytic development until it can show that it serves the broad public interest better than is the case at present.


The bulk of this volume comprises the formal papers presented at two successive annual conferences of the Association for the Advancement of Psychotherapy in the United States. The proceedings of previous conferences were published by an American journal, and it is unclear why this pattern was not repeated. Though the subject is important, only a small minority of the contributions are of much substance and they would be more accessible in an appropriate journal. Another unnecessary book.


Those who find existential analysis a profitable way of inquiring into psychopathology will probably welcome this book, and may concur in Professor Petrilowitsch's strongly expressed preference for Frankl's logotherapy over Freud's psycho-analysis. The majority of psychiatrists in English-speaking countries will, however, be baffled or alienated by the unbounded reifying of abstractions, rootless speculation, and long-winded sentences.


Psychosomatic concepts are often couched in terms which are too diffuse for scientific testing. The ten authors of this volume have attempted to examine the hypothesis implicit in the following statement: 'A patient with vulnerability of a specific organ or somatic system and a characteristic psychodynamic constellation develops the corresponding disease when the turn of events in his life is suited to mobilize his earlier established central conflict and break down his primary defences against it'. Their aim was to test their ability to diagnose seven supposedly psychosomatic diseases—bronchial asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, ulcerative colitis, essential hypertension, neurodermatitis, thyrotoxicosis, and duodenal ulcer—on the basis of a psychodynamic formulation of the patient's personality structure and life-history. To try and establish the objectivity of this viewpoint they employ a complex research-design which is described in some detail. From their account the difficulties of method and interpretation emerge as more impressive than the findings.


Paul Hoch was an Hungarian-born psychiatrist who emigrated to the United States in 1933 and died at the age of 62, having been Commissioner of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene for the previous
nine years. This weighty tribute to his achievements is in four parts. The first comprises a group of 'biographics' by several of his colleagues; the second consists of 54 of his papers; the third is made up of several commentaries on his contributions by a number of distinguished psychiatrists; and the fourth is a bibliography of 306 items. Together they constitute an impressive tribute to a man who, in Sir Aubrey Lewis's words, '. . . had a profound respect for the facts of observation, a distrust of loose speculation and transient fashions, and a critical alertness to fresh ideas and findings which might have value for the treatment as for the understanding of and prevention of mental disorder'.

BOOKS RECEIVED

(Books noticed here may also be reviewed in a later issue)


BASIS APPROACHES TO GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND GROUP COUNSELING Edited by George M. Gazda. (Pp. xiii + 323. $11.00.) Thomas: Springfield, Illinois. 1968.


NOTICES

WORLD CONGRESS OF ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSTICS

An international congress on ultrasonic diagnostics will be held in Vienna from 2 to 7 June 1969. Details may be obtained from Dr. K. Ossoing, Vienna Academy of Medicine, Stadiongasse 6-8, A-1010 Vienna, Austria.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR NEUROCHEMISTRY

The Second International Meeting of the International Society for Neurochemistry will be held at the University of Milan, Italy, from 1–5 September 1969. Details and registration forms may be obtained from Professor Rodolfo Paoletti, Institute of Pharmacology, University of Milan, Via Vanvitelli 32, 20129 Milan, Italy.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN STEREONECPEHALOTOMY

The International Society for Research in Stereonecephalo- tomty will meet in the New York Hilton, New York City, on Friday and Saturday, 26 and 27 September, 1969. Further information from Dr. Henry T. Wycis, Temple University Health and Sciences Center, 3401 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19140, U.S.A.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHLID CHIIRPSYCHIATRY

The 7th International Congress of the International Association for Child Psychiatry and Allied Professions is to be held in Jerusalem in 1970 from 2 to 7 August. The Congress is devoted to the study of 'The child in his family'. Details from Doctor S. Lebovici, 3 Avenue du Président-Wilson, Paris 16e-75, France.