may be disappointed to find that research in this field is not apparently being directed much towards the study of aetiology and prevention, but simply to the analysis of the established disease.

**RECENT ADVANCES IN NEUROLOGY AND NEUROPSYCHIATRY**
The appearance of the 8th edition of this regular series is a reminder of the debt all readers owe to the late Lord Brain. The book has been seen through the press by his son and by Dr. Marcia Wilkinson, and has valuable chapters by invited contributors, but it contains some of Lord Brain's last writings on disorders of memory, oto-neurology, disorders of cerebral circulation, and the carcinomatous neuromyopathies. It forms a welcome statement of some of the advances made since the last edition in 1962, but one is surprised to find only passing reference to low pressure hydrocephalus, no information on sub-acute panencephalitis or infection with slow viruses, and no recognition of the considerable advances made in the field of peripheral neuropathy. Carbamazepine, l-dopa, and the wide range of neurotropic drugs have never been discussed in this series. All neurologists, will, nevertheless, want to have this useful volume, but perhaps the time has come to give psychiatry its own volume in the series.

This ambitious volume includes pages from nearly 50 contributors, but most of these consist merely of a collection of reported methods with little of the critical assessment one expects of an expert.

**SOCIETY WITHOUT THE FATHER** By Alexander Mitscherlich.
It would be foolish to look for the clarity of Hobhouse or Trotter in any contemporary discussion of some major problem of social psychology. It is, however, legitimate to wish that Professor Mitscherlich had disciplined the exposition of his interesting theme so that it was more taut and succinct. He is an experienced psycho-analyst, and brings the Freudian interpretative apparatus to bear on the behaviour of the German people. He discusses other modern societies, but his thoughtful analysis rests primarily on his knowledge of his compatriots, especially those whom he has treated psycho-analytically. His whipping boy is industrial mass society, in which he considers the father's world is separated from the child's, to the detriment of both. Mass society creates a multitude of 'rival siblings' enviously struggling against their neighbours, in barren competition. In contrast to the members of a paternalistic society, they are 'fatherless'. The structure of family authority is upset, and the individual 'grows up into an adult with no visible master, exercises anonymous functions, and is guided by anonymous functions'. Professor Mitscherlich points out that obedience has always played a prominent part in the formation of the German national character; at times, he says, this has clashed with an unrealistic attitude of demand. He regards the problem as one of cultural adaptation, and concludes that 'society counts too easily on the domestication of man'.

**AUBREY LEWIS**

This volume contains the proceedings of a symposium organized by the Quebec Psychopharmacological Research Association in June 1967. The passage of 18 months before their publication in book form has robbed the papers of what slender value most of them possessed. Another unnecessary and expensive volume.

This volume contains lectures given at an Oxford Region postgraduate training course—on addiction (Willis), alcoholism (Edwards), behaviour therapy (Gelder), anxiety (Soddy), treatment of depression (Watt), biochemical aspects of depression (Shaw), treatment of schizophrenia (Letemendia), treatment of epilepsy (Taylor), drug metabolism (Parke), and clinical trials (Shepherd). All are lively, practical, and up to date, and the last three have an extra individuality that distinguishes them.

**SUBNORMAL MIND** By A. K. Deb. (Pp. vi + 73; 18 figures, 8 tables. Rs. 4.00.) Chuckerverty, Chatterjee & Co: Calcutta. 1968.
This brief account of mental subnormality is designed for doctors, medical students, teachers, and parents. The medical aspects are accurately presented, a wide range of conditions being covered in summary form. For a book of this size and purpose the amount of space devoted to rarities is excessive, and no loss would be occasioned by their omission. The chapter on treatment, training, and management could well be greatly expanded in the next edition, since these aspects are of the greatest practical importance both in developed and developing countries.

**R. T. C. PRATT**

About one half of this thorough-going review of the somatic treatments of schizophrenia is devoted to a bibliography of more than 3,000 references. A further 12 pages is taken up by a subject-index and a list of drugs and their proprietary names. The remaining text provides a comprehensive but insipid commentary which is more likely to be consulted than read by workers in this large area of therapy and research.

The quality of papers read at even a small symposium tends to vary widely, some seeming to be spoken off the cuff, and others reporting work in progress that does not merit completion. In this collection there are many contributors who have plainly done their homework, notably Eysenck (psychological aspects), Smythies (neuropsychology), Levi (neuroendocrinology), Slater and Shields (genetics), Hamilton (diagnosis), Murray Parkes (separation anxiety), Gelder (behaviour therapy), Greer (prognosis), and the editor himself (psychophysiology). In these papers scientific study takes precedence over earlier habits of speculation, and gives hope for real progress in the study of anxiety.

R. T. C. PRATT

BOOKS RECEIVED

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


NOTICES

‘CEREBELLUM’

The 4th Symposium of the Fulton Society on ‘Cerebellum’ will take place on 20 September 1969, New York City. Details may be obtained from Dr. Victor Soriano, Calle Buenos Aires 363, Montevideo, Uruguay.

THIRD EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM ON EPILEPSY

This symposium, arranged by the International Bureau for Epilepsy, the International League against Epilepsy, and the Danish Epilepsy Association, will take place at Hotel Marienlyst, Elsinore (near Copenhagen), Denmark, on 21 to 23 June 1970. Details from DIS Congress Service, 36 Skindergade, DK-1159 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The World Mental Health Assembly, jointly sponsored by the World Federation for Mental Health, will take place in Washington, D.C., 17 to 21 November 1969. Details may be obtained from Dr. Paul V. Lenkau, Chairman, W.M.H.A., 615 N. Wolfe Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21205.

IVTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE

This International Congress of Psychosomatic Medicine, organized by the French Society of Psychosomatic Medicine, will be held in Paris from 17 to 20 September 1970, on ‘The Psychotherapeutic Action of the Physician’. Summaries of papers must be submitted by 30 October 1969. Details may be obtained from S.O.C. F.I., 7 rue Michel-Ange, Paris 16e, France.

CORRECTION

In the paper ‘Dissociated visual perceptual and spatial deficits in focal lesions of the right hemisphere’, by Freda Newcombe and W. Ritchie Russell (J. Neurosurg. Psychiat., 32, 72-81) the columns of mean scores for the LH and RH experimental groups were transposed in Tables II(a) and III(a) (p. 75). The Table should read as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locus</th>
<th>LH (mean score)</th>
<th>RH (mean score)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Frontal</td>
<td>29-75</td>
<td>25-67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal or temporo-parietal</td>
<td>31-33</td>
<td>21-36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parietal</td>
<td>28-67</td>
<td>27-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior</td>
<td>29-50</td>
<td>26-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>33-40</td>
<td>25-17</td>
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<tr>
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<td>14-00</td>
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