CONTRIBUTO ALLA CONOSCENZA DELLA RACHI-E CRANIO-
SCHISI By Giuseppe Marandola. (Pp. 286; illustrated;
Lire 10,000.) II Pensiero Scientifico, Editore: Rome.
1968.
The first part of the book reviews the literature on spinal
and cranial meningoceles and related syndromes. The
author then reviews his 252 cases, covering anatomy,
clinical syndromes, and surgical treatment. He con-
siders that there is a generalized skeletal abnormality,
but few would accept that the evidence presented is
abnormal. Unfortunately, the reproduction of radio-
graphs leaves much to be desired.

J. A. SIMPSON

SPEECH DELAY Its Treatment by Speech Play By
Michael Craft. (Pp. vii + 102; 14s.) John Wright:
Bristol. 1969.
This book is written for the parents of children with
delayed or disordered speech development. The author's
personal and professional experience has enabled him to
discuss these problems in a sympathetic yet unemotional
way. He emphasizes that this guide should be used in
conjunction with professional advice; at the same time
he indicates those situations where formal therapy
would have no place.
It is a book which can be recommended with confidence.

IVAN T. DRAPER

PAIN AND THE NEUROSURGEON A Forty-Year Experience
By James C. White and William H. Sweet. (Pp. xxi +
1000; illustrated; $37.00). Thomas: Springfield, Ill.
1969.
An earlier book on the management of pain by the
same authors is now a medical classic. This new work is
based on it, but includes new material on the physiological
basis on pain sensation and on stereotaxic surgery. It is a
difficult book to read and to review critically, as it is
based on the results of a large personal series of cases and
a review of the literature on neurosurgical methods of
relieving pain. Much of the experience reported is
anecdotal. Doubtless many of the conditions treated are
rare; nonetheless it is surely time that the principles of
the controlled clinical trial were adopted in surgical
practice. Opinions expressed in the previous monograph
are modified or completely reversed on the basis of one
or two cases. Until less subjective assessment is available,
all will welcome the opportunity to consult the views of
two very experienced surgeons when faced with a case of
persistent severe pain.

J. A. SIMPSON

PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF THE PSYCHOSES By Thomas
Freeman. (Pp. vii + 8 figures; 45s.) Tavistock Publi-
The major aim of this volume is 'to review the various
phenomena that occur in psychoses and to present a
means of ordering these manifestations'. Dr. Freeman
depends largely on his own clinical observations for
description, and claims to draw on the writings of both
Hughlings Jackson and Freud for interpretation. As his
dominantly psychoanalytical view of psychopathology
is unlikely to convert the uncommitted, the general reader
will probably find the descriptive sections of the book
more substantial than the interpretative.

MICHAEL SHEPHERD

SCHIZOPHRENIE UND ZYKLOTHYMIE, Ergebnisse und
Probleme. By G. Huber. (Pp. vii + 204; DM48.)
These 22 essays have been contributed in honour of
Professor Weitbrecht of Bonn; they deal with various
aspects of the 'endogenous psychoses', with which he
has been specially concerned. The title of the book and
the avowed intentions of its sponsors lead the reader to
expect a thorough survey of the current state of knowledge
in this wide area. This is hardly what he gets. The
majority of the contributors discuss theoretical issues:
they discuss them, it is true, with subtlety and penetration,
but the factual ballast is in short supply. It is paradoxical,
that at a time when world medical bodies flourish and
international congresses multiply, a survey like this shows
very little awareness of what is going on in the non-
German speaking countries: the bibliographies appended
to each article make it abundantly clear that national and
linguistic boundaries have not been broken down in spite
of easier contacts and more extensive globe-trotting.
English speaking psychiatrists are as insular in this
regard as any; it is therefore informative for us to discover
from a comprehensive book like this how the subject is
being studied in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.
The first group of papers deals with causation and
taxonomy. Disorders of childhood and the involutorial
period lead on to studies of symptomatology and
differential diagnosis, with special reference to atypical
forms. The final papers consider experimental psychoses,
analogies between schizophrenic and organic syndromes,
disturbances of coenaesthesia, and suicide.

MANUEL DE GERONTO-PsYCHIATRlE By Christian Müller
avec la collaboration de L. Ciompi, A. Delachaux,
Th. Rabinowicz, J.-L. Villa. (Pp. 276; 33 figures;
Professor Müller comments ruefully on the enormous
literature of the subject—his collaborator Dr. Ciompi has
compiled a card index with more than 6,000 items—and
warns us that the material presented in the book is
necessarily drawn only from what seem the most import-
ant sources. Far from alarming the reader, this reassures
him regarding the readability of the work, which turns
out to be both comprehensive and shrewdly selective.
The present version is a translation of the German
The clinical section deals in turn with details of psycho-
genic disturbances, suicide, endogenous psychoses, and
organic psychoses in the elderly. Institutional care is
appraised with special reference to the Lausanne arrange-
ments, and medico-legal aspects are informatively
reviewed. A brief statement about therapeutics concludes
the book.
Professor Müller has produced an admirable treatise,