

on the management of patients. Review articles are listed at the end of each chapter. I was surprised to find phenobarbitone emphasised in the management of adults with status epilepticus. The stance adopted in therapy is positive and at times aggressive. Radiotherapy is advised for all patients with inoperable cerebral metastases, and proton beam therapy is regarded as the treatment of choice for pituitary adenoma without extrasellar extension. Carotid endarterectomy is recommended for hemispheric transient ischaemic attacks or the less disabling completed strokes when stenosis is shown by arteriography. Misprints are few but the spelling of Sharpey-Schafer (page 117) was beyond the authors' pen.

This is essentially a practical guide for use in the ward or outpatient clinic. It succeeds in providing a large, readily accessible, detailed, and authoritative source of information. The physician will select an appropriate regime for his patient according to his own philosophy.

BRYAN ASHWORTH

**Clinical Psychiatry in Primary Care**  
By S. L. Dubovsky and M. P. Weissberg.  
(Pp. 212; \$10.95.) Williams and Wilkins:  
Baltimore. 1978.

There must be few doctors who can read this admirable book and not learn something about their attitudes towards patients and the latter's reaction to the physician and to illness. It is intended for all practitioners other than the psychiatrist but even he would benefit from dipping into the text. Each problem is dealt with by describing an encounter with a typical patient, possible reactions of the doctor, common unsuccessful approaches, and an ideal model for tackling it. Although not comprehensive in its coverage, the general practitioner and hospital doctor will find here an account of most psychiatric conditions likely to be encountered.

The approaches outlined are counsels of perfection and one wonders to what extent they can be applied within the National Health Service. There are two main problems. The first is that it is doubtful whether non-psychiatrists have the expertise assumed by the American authors. However, now that increasing numbers of general practitioners and

physicians have several months' psychiatric experience included in their training programmes the position may alter. The second problem will be more intractable—lack of time. There must be few who can arrange to meet relatives and entire families, or even patients, as regularly as suggested.

J. A. G. WATT

**Organic Psychiatry The Psychological Consequences of Cerebral Disorder**  
By W. A. Lishman. (Pp. 999; £28.00.)  
Blackwell Scientific Publications:  
Oxford. 1978.

The author describes in detail the psychological phenomena associated with organic disease, both cerebral and extracerebral. His treatment of this field is extended and complete. The first four chapters are concerned with the principles of relationship between specific psychological deficit and brain function, clinical assessment and differential diagnosis. Subsequent chapters describe the clinical, psychiatric, and psychological consequences of the different pathological processes. Mental subnormality and child psychiatry are omitted, the author conceding that these topics are beyond his competence.

The author is a distinguished psychiatrist with a wide experience in the organic field. The purpose of this book is to bridge the gap between psychiatry and neurology. The style is lucid, the text is generously seeded with appropriate references to original sources, and the index is full but easy to use. This is an important book—as stated in the foreword “there is no comparable book in the English-speaking world.” It is expensive, but is warmly recommended.

W. F. DURWARD

**Group Psychotherapy Theory and Practice** Second edition. By Hugh Mullan and Max Rosenbaum. (Pp. 418; illustrated; \$17.95.) Free Press: New York and London. 1978.

Mullan and Rosenbaum have produced an interesting and authoritative textbook on group psychotherapy. The book, now into its second edition, is in three parts.

The first part contains a fascinating account of the origin and subsequent development of group psychotherapy, including the work of all the major influential figures from the United States and Europe. The second part gives a lucid description of the process of group psychotherapy. It includes chapters on selection, the first session, termination, and other matters of practical importance. This section also deals with more controversial issues—for example, the use of co-therapists and the value of alternate and extended sessions. It presents the evidence on these matters in a balanced manner. The final part concentrates on newer influences in group psychotherapy. It includes chapters on art therapy, transactional analysis, gestalt therapy, psychodrama, bioenergetic therapy, and existential group therapy. These chapters are mostly written by individual contributors. If some of them lack the clarity of earlier sections of the book it is perhaps a reflection of the difficulty in describing these therapies which depend for their effectiveness on intense emotional experience.

The strength of the textbook is perhaps also its major weakness for the British reader. It is a book which describes group psychotherapy as it has developed in the United States. Its themes and preoccupations are less relevant to British group psychotherapists. However, I think that it would be an interesting addition to any library if only to remind us of our basic conservatism.

MARGARET R. MALCOLM

## Notice

**Computerised Tomography of Brain and Spinal Cord** A symposium on this subject will be held in Bordeaux, France from 20–22 September 1979 under the auspices of the University of Bordeaux II and INSERM (National Institute of Health and Medical Research). The registration fee is 500 francs. Information may be obtained from Professor J. M. Caillé, Secretariat Service Neuroradiologie, Hôpital Pellegrin-Tripode, Place Amélie-Rabail-Léon, 33076 Bordeaux-Cedex, France.