

strongly suggest that some mental illnesses may be caused by changes in the metabolism of the central nervous system, which changes may be redressed by specific drugs. Equally reliable observations show that certain other conditions, or maybe the same ones, may be helped by psychotherapy, which, conversely, means that these conditions must have their roots in conflicts and repressions in the patient's inner life. And, lastly, the successes of the methods used in the therapeutic community prove that psychotic disturbances originate in a faulty interaction between the individual and the community in which he lives. It is easy to see that each of these three therapeutic approaches—drug therapy, psychotherapy, social therapy—is still rather incomplete and in need of much painstaking work and research. For quite some time, therefore, any one of us belonging to any of these three directions may feel fully justified in concentrating entirely on his field and ignoring the other two. This policy of isolation, however, cannot last for very long; soon we must face the great problem as to which of the three approaches is indicated in which cases—and what its specific contraindications are.

A great advantage of the methods connected with the idea of the hospital as a therapeutic community is that its demands on staff hours are acceptably small and, above all, only a few members of the staff must be highly trained; the rest can be trained while working in the service. This book will serve as a most welcome guide for anyone interested in this sort of work.

MICHAEL BALINT.

Medicine in other Times

Ancient Medicine. Selected Papers of Ludwig Edelstein. Edited by Owsei Temkin and C. Lilian Temkin. (Pp. 496 +xiv. £5 19s.) Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. London: Oxford University Press. 1968.

The writings of the late Ludwig Edelstein (1902–65) are scattered in various journals, so that the publication in one volume of a selection chosen by himself will be welcomed. Edelstein was an erudite classical scholar, a philologist, and a philosopher. He became a medical historian because he took a great interest in Ancient Greek medicine, studied all available original sources on that subject, and formed views that were critical of many opinions currently held. He argued well and always gave relevant sources. Born and educated in Germany, he emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1934 and spent many profitable years at the Institute of the History of Medicine, Baltimore.

Through nearly all the papers in this volume there runs one insistent theme—that “the development of Greek medicine cannot be separated from that of Greek philosophy.” He carried this view further: “In all investigations concerning an understanding of the body as well as of the mind the leadership rested unchallenged with the philosophers.” This leadership is shown to influence not only the ethics of the ancient Greek physician but also his views on anatomy and dissection. Edelstein agrees with the view that dissection of the human cadaver was first performed at Alexandria, and maintains that “it was only in the Hellenistic period and in connexion

with intellectual movements starting with Plato that the old magical and religious beliefs had disintegrated to such an extent as to make dissection possible.” The essay that will probably cause most discussion is that on the Hippocratic oath, concerning the origin of which Edelstein puts forward a new suggestion. Certain parts of the oath are, in his opinion, at variance with the usual practice of Greek physicians in the time of Hippocrates. He also points out that the words “in purity and holiness I will guard my life and my art” refer to a different set of values from the rest of the oath. He concludes that the philosopher whose teaching inspired the oath was Pythagoras, and that it was, in effect a Pythagorean manifesto, probably composed late in the fourth century B.C. As regards the so-called Hippocratic writings, he does not believe that any of them were written by Hippocrates.

The volume ends with three short essays dealing with more recent times. That on Sydenham and Cervantes explains why Sydenham advised Blackmore to read *Don Quixote* to help his study of medicine. Sydenham learnt medicine from experience, and *Don Quixote* also learnt the folly of what he had read from his bitter experiences. Edelstein comments: “I suggest that Sydenham read the *Don Quixote* as a kind of cathartic and preventive medicine for the physician, and that he wanted others to read the book to the same end.” This is a stimulating book, for readers will need to reconsider the grounds for the opinions they hold.

ZACHARY COPE.

Books Received

Books noticed here may be reviewed later.

Radiation Protection in the Mining and Milling of Radioactive Ores. (Pp. 108+vi. 15s. 6d.) Geneva: International Labour Office and International Atomic Energy Agency. 1968.

The Germ-Free Animal in Research. Edited by M. E. Coates. (Pp. 289+xvii; illustrated. 70s.) London: Academic Press. 1968.

Dimensions of Reading Difficulties. By A. T. Ravenette. (Pp. 102+xiv. Hard cover 21s., Flexi-cover 13s.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1968.

Growth Hormone. Edited by A. Pecile and E. E. Müller. (Pp. 455+xi; illustrated. £11 14s.) Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica Foundation. 1968.

Black's Medical Dictionary. 28th edition. By William A. R. Thomson, M.D. (Pp. 1014+viii; illustrated. 42s.) London: Adam & Charles Black. 1968.

Urgentele in Endocrinologie. By Dr. Tudor Stoica. (Pp. 214; illustrated.) Bucuresti: Editura medicală. 1968.

The Surgical Clinics of North America. Practical Surgery of the Hand. Vol. 48, No. 5. Edited by Martin A. Entin, M.D. (Pp. 965–1183 +viii; illustrated.) Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W. B. Saunders Co. 1968.

Chemotaxonomy and Serotaxonomy. Edited by J. G. Hawkes. (Pp. 299+xvi; illustrated. 84s.) London: Academic Press. 1968.

Halfway Houses. By Robert Z. Apte. (Pp. 125. 18s.) London: G. Bell & Sons. 1968.

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Metode Audio-Vizuale în Medicină. By Adrian Steclaci and Dr. Arcade Percok. (Pp. 188; illustrated.) Bucuresti: Editura Medicală. 1968.

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The Residential Treatment of Disturbed and Delinquent Boys. Edited by R. F. Sparks and R. G. Hood. (Pp. 76. 15s.) Cambridge: Institute of Criminology. 1968.

Atlas of Ear Surgery. By William H. Saunders, M.D., and Michael M. Paparella, M.D. (Pp. 363 +ix; illustrated. 247s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1968. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby.

Modern Trends in Cardiac Surgery—2. Edited by G. H. Wooler, F.R.C.S., and Eoin Aberdeen, F.R.C.S., D.C.H. (Pp. 248+ix; illustrated. 65s.) London: Butterworths. 1968.

The Pharmacological and Epidemiological Aspects of Adolescent Drug Dependence. Proceedings of the Society for the Study of Addiction, London, 1–2 September 1966. Edited by C. W. M. Wilson, M.D. (Pp. 515+xviii; illustrated. £8.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1968.

Cardiovascular Disorders. Edited by Albert N. Brest, M.D., and John H. Moyer, M.D. (Pp. 1104+xxi+36; illustrated. £11 4s.) Philadelphia: F. A. Davis. 1968. U.K. distributors: Blackwell, Oxford.

Medical and Veterinary Chemicals. Vol. 1, Parts I and II, and Vol. 2 Part III. By R. Slack, D.Sc., and A. W. Nineham, Ph.D. (Pp. Vol. 1 254+xvi; Vol. 2 208+v; illustrated. £6 per set. 2 vols.) Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1968.

Clinical Anesthesia, Halothane. Edited by Nicholas M. Greene, M.D. (Pp. 202+xi; illustrated. 47s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1968.

Lecture Notes on Bacteriology. By R. R. Gillies, M.D., D.P.H., M.C.Path. (Pp. 188+vi; illustrated. 20s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1968.

Acute Myocardial Disorders. Edited by D. C. Julian, M.R.C.P., and M. F. Oliver, F.R.C.P.Ed. (Pp. 343+xvi; illustrated. 50s.) Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1968.

Urinary Tract Infection in Children and Its Relevance to Disease in Adult Life. By Victoria Smallpeice, F.R.C.P. (Pp. 171+viii; illustrated. 36s.) London: William Heinemann. 1968.

The Science of Social Medicine. By Alwyn Smith, Ph.D., M.B., D.P.H., M.R.C.P. (Pp. 221. 63s.) London: Staples Press. 1968.

Lives of the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of London. Edited by Richard R. Trail, C.B.E., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 476+xii. £4 10s.) London: Royal College of Physicians. 1968.

Introduction to Human Embryology. By James Blake Thomas, Ph.D. (Pp. 348+ix; illustrated. 112s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1968.

The Biological Basis of Medicine. Volumes 1 and 2. Edited by E. Edward Bittar and Neville Bittar. (Pp. 1–590+xv and 1–575+xiv; illustrated. 140s. each.) London: Academic Press. 1968.