

Committed Therapist

Modern Problems of Pharmacopsychiatry. Vol. 3. Depression: Its Diagnosis and Treatment. Lithium: The History of Its Use in Psychiatry. By Nathan S. Kline. (Pp. 92 + viii, 42s.) Basle: S. Karger. 1969.

For Dr. Kline, the author of this book, the treatment of depression is first and foremost pharmacological. The bulk of this book consists of a description of therapy with tricyclic drugs and the monoamine-oxidase inhibitor drugs. Neither clinical nor pharmacological aspects are deeply discussed, but indications and contraindications are presented in considerable detail, as this example shows: "There is evidence that reduced blood sugar may occur on any of the MAO inhibitors, and as indicated previously it is important insofar as it may be misleading if the patient is a diabetic or is suspected of hypoglycaemia."

It is sometimes laid against psychotherapists that one can never prove their formulations wrong. If a patient ought on the theory to have a phobia of dogs, but in fact keeps a kennels, this is explained as reaction formation and, perversely, held to support the theory. A similar phenomenon exists among over-enthusiastic psychopharmacologists. If a patient obstinately fails to improve, then the dosage was not adequate, or the course was not given for long enough, or the drug should have been combined with another one. Thus Dr. Kline combines monoamine-oxidase inhibitor drugs with tricyclics, tricyclics with phenothiazines, monoamine-oxidase inhibitor drugs with phenothiazines, and tricyclics with sedatives. Since depressive illness usually undergoes spontaneous remission in time, and since experimenting with all these combinations certainly takes time, the outcome is highly likely to be successful.

Dr. Kline lays out his material very clearly, though he would be the first to agree that it is rather a one-sided picture. Evaluative studies are not presented and he is himself an author of two-thirds of the references. Partly this stems from an unusual technique. The reference to a remark of Samuel Johnson's for instance, is referenced to a lecture

by the author, nor is this the only instance. If I stress this matter of bibliography it is because the book ends with an article entitled "Lithium: The History of Its Use in Psychiatry." In it the author refers to a similarly titled article by him "submitted for publication." I hope that before it is published the author will include some slight inkling that there is another side to the story, that there is quite a distinguished body of opinion that finds the case for lithium not proved. There is some virtue in being acquainted with doubt. No hint of any emerges here unless it lies in the opening sentence: "When the full story of lithium is known it may contain a number of surprises."

NEIL KESSEL.

Social Services and their Administration

Introduction to Social Administration in Britain. By Muriel Brown. (Pp. 208; 11s.) London: Hutchinson University Library. 1969.

The understanding of the discipline of social administration is often made unduly difficult by the use of obscure sociological terminology, and the vagueness of expression of some of its exponents. Social administration is broadly speaking the study of the application of the knowledge available from sociology, economics, psychology, and certain other sources to community life and its problems.

This book, intended as a primer and general guide, fortunately avoids the pitfalls and sets out clearly, and in sufficient detail for the non-specialist, the principles of this subject. Poverty and the British social security system are discussed, and the dilemmas and difficulties of social security described. Then follows a chapter on the Health Services. Few will disagree with the introductory statement that "A high degree of medical skill will not of itself solve the problems of sickness unless it is made readily available when and where it is needed". Although cost is not dealt with,

large-scale planning is recommended to secure an effective distribution of resources. The account of the administrative structure of the National Health Service is clear and sufficient for the average student. The main omission is that of epidemiology and its vital contribution to health service planning.

The chapters on housing and education cover these two complex issues well. The second half of the book goes into greater detail on those welfare services which the community provides for individuals and families, such as deprived children, the aged, the mentally and physically handicapped, and families in difficulties. There is an interesting and informative account of the public expenditure on the social services, including the National Health Service, and on some general policy issues.

This is a book which can be recommended to anyone seeking a wider insight into the social services, as well as to those professionally involved with any of the community services.

ANDREW B. SEMPLE.

Revising for the Fellowship

Operative Surgery Revision. 2nd. Edition. By John J. Shipman, M.S., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 171 + vii; 35s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1969.

This short book is intended for those who are working for the final Fellowship examination and, as its title indicates, it is intended for revision only. It is not a formal account of operative surgery, but lists in note form the main steps in most of the common operations in all the surgical specialities. There are no illustrations. Alternative procedures are mentioned, but there is no discussion of their relative merits. The instructions are clear and concise.

Provided the operations have been seen and larger books have been studied, this book should prove useful for those for whom it is intended.

R. B. WELBOURN.

Books Received

Books noticed here may be reviewed later

Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology. Vol. 19. Part 1. Edited by J. A. V. Butler and D. Noble. Oxford: Pergamon Press. 1969.

The Mole in Medicine and Biology. By J. A. Owen, M.D., M.C.Path., R. G. Edwards, M.Sc., M.C.Path., and B. A. W. Collier, B.Sc. (Pp. 52 + vii. 8s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1969.

Biochemistry. 2nd edition. By S. P. Datta, M.B., and J. H. Ottaway, Ph.D. (Pp. 446; illustrated. 30s.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cassell. 1969.

Prostaglandins, Peptides, and Amines. Edited by P. Mantegazza and E. W. Horton. (Pp. 191 + ix; illustrated. 60s.) London and New York: Academic Press. 1969.

Fundamentals of Clinical Endocrinology. By Reginald Hall, M.R.C.P., John Anderson, M.R.C.P., and George A. Smart, F.R.C.P. (Pp. 418 + vii; illustrated. 80s.) London: Pitman. 1969.

Psychiatric Nursing. 3rd edition. By David Maddison, M.B., F.R.A.C.P., D.P.M., Patricia Day, R.M.N., R.C.N., and Bruce Leabeater, B.A. (Pp. 534 + x; illustrated. 46s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1969.

Psychiatrische und Psychologische Aspekte der Familienplanung bei Oraler Kontrazeption. By Peter Petersen. (Pp. 115 + xii. DM. 19.80.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1969.

Principles of General Neurology. By Barry Wyke, M.D. (Pp. 820 + xvi; illustrated. 240s.) Barking, Essex: Elsevier. 1969.

Epidemiology of Mongolism. By Abraham M. Lilienfeld. (Pp. 145 + xiii; illustrated. 67s.) Baltimore: John Hopkins. 1969.

Arterielle Hypertonie: Pathogenese-Klinik-Therapie. Edited by Robert Heintz and Heinz Losse. (Pp. 451 + xvi; illustrated. DM. 84.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1969.

The Biliary Tract. By Gerald S. Dowdy, jun., M.D. (Pp. 316 + xiii; illustrated. 162s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1969. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger.

HB 419: A New Oral Antidiabetic Drug. Edited by R. Levine and E. F. Pfeiffer. (Pp. 92 + iv; illustrated. DM. 24.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1969.

Essentials of Gynecology. 4th edition. By E. Stewart Taylor, M.D. (Pp. 588 + viii; illustrated. 153s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1969. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger.

Psychological Development in Children. By Robert D. Singer, Ph.D. and Anne Singer. (Pp. 437 + xv; illustrated. 68s.) London: W. B. Saunders. 1969.

► Dr. LEO WOLLMAN has been elected president of the American Society of Psychosomatic Dentistry and Medicine.

► Dr. TAUQIR AHMAD, of London N.5, has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for brave conduct "for services when restraining a mentally deranged man armed with a knife."

Coming Events

British Postgraduate Medical Federation.—Details of the January-August programme of courses for general practitioners and local authority medical officers are announced on advertisement page xxix.

Royal College of Physicians of London.—Series of presentations on (1) "New Physiological Concepts of Clinical Disease," and (2) "Clinical Pharmacology." Sessions will be held on Tuesday afternoons, twice a month.

Stoke Mandeville Hospital.—Clinical meetings will be held on Wednesdays, 1 p.m., in the Floyd Auditorium, 14 January-25 March. Details from the Secretary of the Hospital, Aylesbury, Bucks.

St. Helier Hospital Postgraduate Medical Centre.—Copies of the programme for hospital staff and general practitioners for January-March are obtainable from the Clinical Tutor of the Centre, St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey.

Chiltern Medical Centre.—Details of the programme for January-April 1970 are obtainable from the Clinical Tutor of the Centre, Wycombe General Hospital, High Wycombe, Bucks.

London Medical Group.—Annual conference at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Cleveland Street, London W.1, on 6-7 February. The subject is "Diseases of Civilization," and Sir Max Rosenheim will give the opening lecture. Admission fee 5s. for all professionally interested persons. Further details from the Publicity Officer, London Medical Group, Student Movement House, 103 Gower Street, London W.C.1.

Royal Society.—The following meetings will take place: (1) 19-20 February, "Gene Action and its Control," by Dr. G. D. H. Bell, F.R.S., Dr. R. Riley, F.R.S., and Professor J. M. Thoday, F.R.S.; (2) 5 March, 4.30 p.m., review lecture by Dr. D. E. Broadbent, F.R.S., "Psychological aspects of Short-term and Long-term Memory"; (3) 12-13 March, "New Developments in Electron Microscopy with special emphasis on their Application in Biology," by Dr. H. E. Huxley, F.R.S. and Dr. A. Klug, F.R.S. Applications should be made to the Executive Secretary, Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London, S.W.1.

Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.—Details of the postgraduate medical education programme are obtainable from the Area Organizer of Postgraduate Medical Studies, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, Southgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 1UD.

Monday, 12 January

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., combined staff consultation clinical meeting. **LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.**—8 p.m., Professor R. Shields: Complications of Vagotomy. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.**—5 p.m., Watson Smith lecture by Professor A. W. Woodruff: Toxocariasis.

Tuesday, 13 January

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, 8 p.m., symposium: Design of Anaesthetic Equipment. **LONDON MEDICAL GROUP.**—At King's College Hospital Medical School, 5.45 p.m., Mr. M. Banks: Recent Research on Conflict and War. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS: SOUTH LONDON FACULTY.**—At S.E. London General Practitioner Centre, S.E.15, 8.15 p.m., Dr. Sylvia Dawkins: Sexual Problems. **ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE: EDINBURGH BRANCH.**—At Pfizer Foundation, Hill Square, 7.45 p.m., Mr. J. Cook: The Act of the Possible—problems and methods of surgery in underdeveloped countries (with slides). **TUNBRIDGE WELLS POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Elizabethan Barn, 8 p.m., Professor S. Clayton: Recent Advances in Haemolytic Disease. ●

Wednesday, 14 January

CHILTERN MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Wycombe General Hospital, High Wycombe, 8.30 p.m., Mr. D. Ross: Recent Advances in Cardiac Surgery. **GWENT POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE.**—At Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, Mon., 2.15 p.m., gynaecology and obstetrics meeting; 2.15 p.m., medical meeting. **INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH.**—5.30 p.m., Professor C. H. Kempe (Colorado): Recent Advances and Retreats in Childhood Immunization. **INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.**—5 p.m., Dr. S. Godfrey: Physiological Accompaniments of Breathlessness on Exertion. **INSTITUTE OF ORTHOPAEDICS.**—At Great Portland Street, London, W.1, 9.30 a.m.-12 noon, 6 p.m.-7 p.m., and 8.15 p.m., instructional course: Growth and Metabolic Disorders. **INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.**—5.30 p.m., Dr. J. H. Rey: Determinants of Sexual Identity. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS.**—5.30 p.m., Postgraduate museum demonstration by Dr. A. S. Woodcock: Vulval Dysmorphies. **ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.**—5 p.m., Goulstonian lecture by Dr. Roger Williams: Transplantation of Liver in Man. **STOKE MANDEVILLE HOSPITAL.**—1 p.m., Dr. C. S. Pitcher: clinical cases; 6 p.m., Dr. L. C. A. Nunn: Recent Views on Electrolytes.

Thursday, 15 January

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.—At University Medical Buildings, Foresterhill, 5 p.m., Professor M. G. P. Stoker: Neoplastic Transformation. **LONDON ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.**—At Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 8.30 p.m., Dr. Christine Cooper, Miss Joan Court: Battered Babies. **LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—Visit to Westminster Hospital, demonstration by staff: Advance in Clinical Practice. **LONDON MEDICAL GROUP.**—At St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, 5.45 p.m., Rev. L. Bright: Making Ethical Decisions. **NORTHAMPTON MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—8.30 p.m., Mr. C. Bonington: Conquest of the Blue Nile.

Friday, 16 January

CROYDON MEDICAL CENTRE.—At Mayday Hospital, 1 p.m., case conference by the medical division; 2.15 p.m., an afternoon of paediatrics. **FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.**—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4.30 p.m., Radiotherapy Section meeting: Some Therapeutic Applications of Radioactive Isotopes. **INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., Dr. Glyn Lloyd: Radiology of Sinus Disease. **NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY.**—At Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Headington, Oxford, 6.30 p.m., Mr. J. D. Morgan: Pyogenic Bone and Joint Infections. **ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—10 a.m., Staff round; 11 a.m., seminar by Professor R. B. Welbourn: Endocrine Surgery.

Saturday, 17 January

NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY.—At Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Headington, Oxford, 8.30 a.m., Professor P. B. Beeson: Some Factors in Occurrence of Pyogenic Infection; 9.45 a.m., Dr. C. G. Woods: Granulomatous Bone and Joint Infections.

Sunday, 18 January

EDGWARE POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Edgware General Hospital, Aged and the Aged, 10.15 a.m., film: Coronary Heart Disease; 11 a.m., Dr. Muriel Rose, Dr. F. C. R. Picton, Dr. A. P. Condie: The Ageing and the Gynaecologist.

Appointments

BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—I. D. Green, Ph.D., M.B., M.R.C.P. (whole-time consultant physician (cardio-respiratory disease) to the South Birmingham group); T. D. J. Botting, M.B., F.R.C.S. (maximum part-time consultant orthopaedic surgeon to the South Birmingham group); Jean M. W. Bolt, M.B., D.P.H., D.P.M. (whole-time consultant psychiatrist to the South Warwickshire group); M. R. Morton, M.B., D.P.M. (whole-time consultant psychiatrist (mental subnormality) to the Mid-Worcestershire group); G. N. Penlington, M.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (whole-time consultant anaesthetist to the Coventry group); J. E. Marshall, M.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (maximum part-time consultant anaesthetist to the Shrewsbury group and the Roberts Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital); C. T. Major, M.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (whole-time consultant anaesthetist to the Shrewsbury group and the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital); G. W. Gamlen, M.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (maximum part-time consultant anaesthetist to the South Warwickshire group); J. J. Kramer, M.B., M.C.Path. (whole-time consultant pathologist to the Herefordshire group); D. Myres, B.M., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. (whole-time consultant psychiatrist to the Shrewsbury group); W. M. Cottrell, M.B., D.P.M. (whole-time consultant psychiatrist to the North Staffordshire group); D. M. Hill, B.M., M.R.C.P. (consultant physician to the South Worcestershire group); J. D. Eddy, M.B., M.R.C.P. (maximum part-time consultant physician to the North Birmingham group); R. Cockel, M.B., M.R.C.P. (whole-time consultant physician (gastroenterology) to the South Birmingham group); D. Pollock, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed. (whole-time consultant surgeon to the Shrewsbury group).

MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—F. W. Lewis, M.B., D.M.R.D. (whole-time or maximum part-time consultant radiologist, Blackburn and District group of hospitals); R. D. Wood, M.B., D.M.R.D. (whole-time or maximum part-time consultant radiologist, Salford group of hospitals).

NORTH-EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—B. S. Ashby, M.B., F.R.C.S. (consultant general surgeon to the Southend-on-Sea group of hospitals); C. I. S. Walter, M.B., D.P.M. (consultant psychiatrist to St. Helena group of hospitals and Harlow group of hospitals).

Notice to Authors

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Authors wanting reprints of their articles should notify the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, on receipt of proofs.

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