

Drugs for Mental Disease

Psychopharmacological Agents. Vol. 1. Edited by Maxwell Gordon. (Pp. 678+xvi; illustrated. £8 8s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1964.

This book is welcome for the excellent description which it gives of the development of some 12 groups of drugs designed for alleviating mental disease. Its clinical sections are brief and secondary. The classification is chemical, and the presentation is often in terms of synthetic routes, the determination of structure, and relationships between chemical structure and a variety of biological effects. Nevertheless, the informa-

tion carried is very relevant to readers of the *B.M.J.* Almost all the writers are from major research laboratories in the pharmaceutical industry, and their contributions include much of the reasoning which has conditioned the spending of many millions of pounds on research in drug development.

It is important to note that these endeavours have a chemical or rather a chemotherapeutic logic, even though until their final stages they may lack a clinical rationale. The example of imipramine, recounted here by Häfliger and Burckhardt, is much to the point. This and related compounds were synthesized by loose analogy with phenothiazines. Pharmacologically imipramine was found suitably free from toxic effects and able to potentiate some

depressants, as was chlorpromazine. Clinical trial in mental illness was judged, however, to show imipramine's greatest value to be as an antidepressant. Pharmacological properties relevant to this action were subsequently noted—for example, antagonism to reserpine. Description of phenothiazines themselves is deferred to a second volume of the present series. This one includes groups of compounds related to reserpine, meprobamate, chlordiazepoxide, pipradrol, benactyzine, benzimidazoles, and monoamine oxidase inhibitors. A final chapter contributed by D. F. Downing describes psychotomimetic compounds. The book is admirably indexed.

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Books Received

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Das Allgemeine Krankenhaus in Wien und seine Geschichte. By Bernhard Grois. (Pp. 253; illustrated. Ö.S. 250.) Vienna: W. Maudrich. 1965.

A Short Textbook of Microbiology. By D. C. Turk, D.M., M.R.C.P., M.C.Path., and I. A. Porter, M.D., M.C.Path. (Pp. 292+viii. 27s. 6d. boards. 20s. paperback.) London: English Universities Press. 1965.

Scientific Psychology. Principles and Approaches. Edited by Benjamin B. Wolman. (Pp. 620+xv. 70s.) New York and London: Basic. 1965.

Advances in Planned Parenthood. Edited by Aquiles J. Sobrero and Sarah Lewit. (Pp. 151. \$5.95.) Cambridge, Mass.: Schenkman. 1965.

Adrenocortical Function in Fever. Studies in guinea pigs injected with pyrogens and in humans with acute bacterial infections. By Hans H. Bassöe. (Pp. 244. 35s.) Oslo: Scandinavian University Books. 1965.

A Text-book of Midwifery. For Students and Practitioners. By R. W. Johnstone, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., Hon.L.L.D., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.C.O.G., F.R.S.E. 20th edition revised in collaboration with Robert Kellar, M.B.E., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.C.O.G. (Pp. 624+xvi; illustrated. 50s.) London: Adam and Charles Black. 1965.

Principles and Practice of Obstetric Anaesthesia. 2nd edition. By J. Selwyn Crawford, M.B., Ch.B., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A. (Pp. 355+xviii. 60s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1965.

A Guide for the Medical Secretary. By H. E. M. Welch, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Pp. 81+ix. 7s. 6d.) London: Heinemann. 1965.

Surgery of the Biliary Passages and the Pancreas. By Walter Hess, M.D. Translated from German by Heinrich Lamm, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Pp. 638+xiii. £9 14s.) London: D. Van Nostrand. 1965.

Läsionen Peripherer Nerven. Diagnostik und Therapie. Edited by M. Mumenthaler and H. Schliack. (Pp. 348+xii; illustrated. DM. 68.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1965.

Gideon Delaune and his Family Circle. 7th Gideon Delaune Lecture, 1964. By F. N. L. Poynter. (Pp. 30. No price given.) London: Wellcome Historical Medical Library. 1965.

Horchdruckforschung. Symposium, Freiburg, 1964. Edited by Professor L. Heilmeyer and Dr. H. J. Holtmeier. (Pp. 402+xvi; illustrated. DM. 30.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1965.

Joaquin Albarran. By J. Paulis Pages and M. Y. Monteros-Valdivieso. (Pp. 194. No price given.) Habana, Cuba: Carlos J. Finlay. 1963.

Oncology and Cancer Research. Maxwell's International Subject Bibliographies No. 31. (Pp. 35. Free on demand.) Oxford: Robert Maxwell. 1965.

Health Services Administration. A Source Book. Edited by R. J. Peters, M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed., D.P.H., and J. Kinnaird, M.A., B.L., C.A., F.H.A. (Pp. 500+xv. 42s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

A Short Textbook of Haematology. 2nd edition. By R. B. Thompson, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 350; illustrated. 35s.) London: Pitman. 1965.

Modern Problems in Pediatrics. Vol. 9. Seminar on Hospitalization of Children, Paris, 1963. (Pp. 316+xii. sFr./DM. 60.) New York: S. Karger. 1965.

Serum Proteins and the Dysproteinemias. Edited by F. William Sunderman, M.D., Ph.D., Sc.D., and F. William Sunderman, jun., M.D. (Pp. 461+xii; illustrated. £7 15s.) London: Pitman. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott. 1965.

Psychiatry. Theory and Practice for Students and Nurses. By H. C. Beccle, M.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. (Pp. 283. 9s. 6d.) London: Faber & Faber. 1965.

A Student's Histology. 2nd edition. By H. S. D. Garven, B.Sc., M.D.Glas., F.R.S.E., F.R.C.P.-Glas. (Pp. 700+xii; illustrated. 70s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

The Acute Abdomen for the Man on the Spot. By J. C. Angell, F.R.C.S. (Pp. 95+x. 20s.) London: Pitman. 1965.

Historia de la Lepra en Cuba. By Miguel A. Gonzalez Prendes. (Pp. 415. No price given.) Habana, Cuba: Carlos J. Finlay. 1963.

The Clinical Psychiatry of Late Life. By Felix Post, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M. (Pp. 173+ix; illustrated. 21s.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

The Honorary Medical Staff of the Manchester Royal Infirmary. 1830-1948. By William Brockbank, T.D., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 240+xiii; illustrated. 30s.) Manchester: University Press. 1965.

Clinical Investigation for Medical Practitioners. By H. P. Gwinn, M.D., and Brian Lees, M.R.C.P. (Pp. 107. No price given.) Lake Bluff, Illinois: Lees Associates. 1965.

Acute Problems in Resuscitation and Hypothermia. Proceedings of Symposium on Application of Deep Hypothermia in Terminal States. Edited by V. A. Negovskii. Translated by Basil Haigh, M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Pp. 91. \$15.) New York: Consultants Bureau Enterprises. 1965.

Oral Histology. Inheritance and Development. By D. Vincent Provenza, B.S., M.S., Ph.D. (Pp. 548+xiv; illustrated. £5 5s.) London: Pitman. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott. 1965.

Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research. No. 37. Edited by Anthony F. DePalma. (Pp. 259+viii; illustrated. 20s.) London: Pitman. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott. 1965.

Introduction to Anatomy. By Roger Warwick, B.Sc., Ph.D., M.D. (Pp. 230+ix; illustrated. 12s. 6d.) London: Newnes. 1965.

Fifty Years of Research on Mammalian Reproduction. Bibliography of the Scientific Publications of Carl G. Hartman. (Pp. 36+vii. No price given.) Bethesda, Maryland: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. 1965.

Die Steinbruchsilikosen und ihre Bekämpfung. Edited by Dr. Gustav Sepke. (Pp. 149; illustrated. £2 9s. 9d.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1965.

Transactions of the Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors of America. 73rd Annual Meeting. Vol. 48. Edited by Samuel R. Moore, jun., M.D. (Pp. 348+x. No price given.) New York: Recording & Statistical Co. 1965.

Genetics and the Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases. Symposium, Michigan, 1963. Edited by James V. Neel, Margery W. Shaw, and William J. Schull. (Pp. 395+vi; illustrated. No price given.) Washington: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. 1965.

Current Research in Leukaemia. Edited by F. G. J. Hayhoe, M.D. (Pp. 306+xii; illustrated. £6.) London: Cambridge University Press. 1965.

Infections Humaines à Bactéries Anaérobies non Toxigènes. By H. Beerens and Mme. M. Tahan-Castel. (Pp. 194. No price given.) Brussels: Presses Académiques Européennes. 1965.