

affectionate title of foster parent, and the latter in the elaborate supervision by which his conduct is watched and reported on to the Guardians." This passage which was written in 1874 in "Children under the Poor Law" is quoted by Rosemary Dinnage and M. L. Kellmer Pringle as a point in their argument that love and money may be recognized as basic human motivations, but foster parents are not assured of receiving much of either for their trouble. Perhaps difficulties which arise in fostering are less the fault of human nature than of our social arrangements. "There are wide, even bizarre, variations in the number of children in care in different areas and this applies particularly to foster home care; in this country the percentage being fostered ranges from 18 to 95%" (Home Office, February 1967).

The economic aspect may be important in determining the extent of the use of fostering. The average cost of this form of care per week is £2 6s. 9d., which compares with £12 3s. 3d. for the child in a "children's home." Could this be one reason why less children are fostered than might be the case? The authors raise this question among others as a matter for research, and even on the evidence available it seems reasonable to suppose that a better job might be done if a little more were paid for it. They suggest that it may be a mistake to think that love and money are mutually exclusive. They recommend consideration of making fostering a recognized and adequately paid job.

This text is a valuable review of the limited information available on fostering. Although foster care is less emotionally tinged than adoption and although rather more hard figures are to hand, there is still

a great deal of vagueness on the subject and there are many common fallacies. In Britain there are 32,000 children in foster homes compared with 20,000 who are adopted annually. So that some third of the children in care are adopted while about half live in foster homes. Both in the U.S.A. and in Britain fostering has become the most commonly used form of care for those children whose families cannot look after them temporarily, or in some cases permanently, but in America the change has gone further, since there some 200,000 children live in foster homes, about two-thirds of the total number under care.

The facts which the authors quote reveal a disquieting situation. Perhaps some of the children who are fostered might be better adopted. Perhaps more foster parents could be attracted if some of the skill spent on advertising soap or cigarettes was used for devising the right kind of appeal. There is a very high proportion of rejection of would-be foster parents. In one instance in Devon only 25 homes were found from 140 replies and in New York only 15% were accepted, but the criteria used for selection or rejection are inconsistent.

Residential Child Care, by the same authors, is a companion to *Foster Home Care*, and is part of an ambitious project of studies in child development emanating from the National Bureau for Co-operation in Child Care. Rosemary Dinnage and M. L. Kellmer Pringle point out at once that the basic social considerations which would reduce the incidence of children living in residential care—better housing, family allowances, allowances for single parents, and a more generous policy to the less well off—are outside the scope of

their review. They draw attention, however, to a number of shortcomings in the present arrangements. In particular they stress the low esteem in which the work of residential child care is held, the rapid turnover of staff, limited standards of training, poor staff ratio, the shortage of child care officers, the rapid turnover in their ranks also, the extent to which they are overworked, and the large amount of their time which they devote to routine office work and travelling.

The authors attempt to set Bowlby's writings and the controversy in regard to child care in its proper historical perspective. They emphasize that "scientific" theories of child rearing held earlier in this century with their emphasis on physical hygiene and routine arose from a reaction to the standards of the last century with its appalling child mortality and morbidity. They mention that there was no research documenting the ill effects of loneliness as there was connecting disease with poor hygiene. In consequence they suggest that segregation into appropriate groups was seen as the most efficient way of caring for the needy, the sick in hospitals, and parentless children in large institutions. They summarize the consequences of this policy as intellectual, emotional, and character impoverishment. They point to the high degree of unanimity in the studies quoted, though there is some evidence which needs to be supplemented concerning the benefits deriving from better quality of residential care. A large part of both volumes is made up of summaries of research contributions culled from the literature and should be valuable to all of those interested in child care.

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Books Received

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

A Symposium on the Interaction of Drugs and Subcellular Components in Animal Cells. Edited by P. N. Campbell. (Pp. 355 + viii; illustrated. £3 15s.) London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1968.

The Early Diagnosis of the Acute Abdomen. Edited by Sir Zachary Cope, B.A., M.D.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng. 13th edition. (Pp. 202; illustrated. 28s.) London: Oxford University Press. 1968.

Herz- und Gefäßkrankheiten. Grundbegriffe. Diagnostik. Therapie. Bugutachtung. Übersichtstabellen. By Professor Dr. H. Klepzig. (Pp. 284 + v. DM. 9.80.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1968.

A Handbook of Medical Hypnosis. By Gordon Ambrose, L.M.S.A.A., and George Newbold, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., M.M.S.A., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H. 3rd edition. (Pp. 312 + xiv. £2 5s.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cassell Ltd. 1968.

Progress in Neurology and Psychiatry. Edited by E. A. Spiegel, M.D., Dr.med.(Hon.). (Pp. 573 + x. £9. Vol. 22.) London: William Heinemann Medical Books Limited. 1967.

A Symposium on Drugs and Sensory Functions. Edited by Andrew Herxheimer, M.B., B.S. (Pp. 338 + xiv; illustrated. £3 15s.) London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 1968.

Essentials of Toxicology. By Ted A. Loomis, Ph.D., M.D. (Pp. 162 + ix; illustrated. £2 18s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1968.

The Healing Partnership. The Patient as Colleague in Psychotherapy. By Bernard Steinzor, Ph.D. (Pp. 268 + xi. £2 15s.) London: Secker & Warburg. 1967.

The Scientific Basis of Medicine Annual Reviews, 1968. Edited by Sir John McMichael. (Pp. 413 + ix; illustrated. £2 10s.) London: The Athlone Press. 1968.

Proceedings of the Third International Congress of Human Genetics. Edited by James F. Crow and James V. Neel. (Pp. 578 + xviii; illustrated. £6 18s.) Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1968.

Nephrology. Volume I. By Jean Hamburger, G. Richet, J. Crosnier, J. L. Funck-Brentano, B. Antoine, H. Ducrot, J. P. Mery, and H. de Montera. Translated by Anthony Walsh, F.R.C.S.I. (Pp. 709 + xxxviii; illustrated. £21 5s. the set.) Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W. B. Saunders Company. 1968.

Nephrology. Volume II. By Jean Hamburger, G. Richet, J. Crosnier, J. L. Funck-Brentano, B. Antoine, H. Ducrot, J. P. Mery, and H. de Montera. Translated by Anthony Walsh, F.R.C.S.I. (Pp. 1,312 + xxxviii; illustrated. £21 5s. the set.) Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W. B. Saunders Company. 1968.

How Not to Kill Your Children. By a Family Doctor. (Pp. 265. £1 15s.) London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd. 1968.

Progress in Medical Laboratory Technique—4. Edited by F. J. Baker, F.I.M.L.T., F.I.S.T., F.R.M.S. (Pp. 209 + vii; illustrated. £2 18s.) London: Butterworths. 1968.

A Textbook of Neurology. 4th edition. By H. Houston Merritt, M.D. (Pp. 844 + xx; illustrated. £6 15s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1967.

A Decade of Health Services. Social Survey Trends in Use and Expenditure. By Ronald Anderson and Odin W. Anderson. (Pp. 244 + xix. £5 17s.) Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press. 1968.

Elektronenmikroskopische Organpathologie. By Heinz David. (Pp. 711 + xx; illustrated. £10 2s. 1d.) Berlin: Veb Verlag Volk und Gesundheit. 1967.

Diagnostic Bronchoscopy. An Introduction. By Peter Stradling, M.D.Lond., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 103 + viii; illustrated. £3.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1968.

The Senses Considered as Perceptual Systems. By James J. Gibson. (Pp. 335 + xiv; illustrated. £2.) London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd. 1968.

Radiographic Techniques Related to Pathology. By Margaret A. Clifford, M.S.R., and Ann E. Drummond, F.S.R. (Pp. 71. 12s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. 1968.

Drugs of Choice, 1968–1969. Edited by Walter Modell, M.D. (Pp. 907 + xv. £8.) Saint Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. London: Henry Kimpton. 1967.