

scissors". In this half, several ongoing studies in schools are described, but in terms of approach and aspiration rather than of achievement and results. The knowledge to be applied comes from "ego" psychology and learning theory; "dynamic" psychology is eschewed.

"If you have thought out clearly what you want to say", the usual advice to authors goes, "you can say it in a few sentences". That this book is of the order of 200,000 words suggests that the authors are at an early stage of getting their ideas straight. What they do have to say could have been boiled down to make an interesting series of topical but ephemeral essays in a Penguin-size book, instead of this portentous tome. To get the few small nuggets requires a terrible lot of dredging. Parsimony in writing is perhaps a peculiarly English virtue.

Yet the book has a certain importance. It envisages considerable changes in educational practice in the United States under the impact of behavioural sciences, to which psychiatrists, with clinical psychologists, sociologists and others, make a contribution. The situation in England is very different. There is a longer and better-established tradition for educational psychologists, psychiatric social workers and child-psychiatrists to work in the schools, but they have shown far less vigour than this book reveals in questioning concepts and methods and in conducting research.

D. RUSSELL DAVIS.

Introduction to the Study of Human Behavior.

By HARRY KAUFMANN. Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W. B. Saunders Company. 1968. Pp. 162. Price 21s.

This small book defends the scientific study of human behaviour against attacks which one imagines might be launched either by rather extreme existentialists or by inhabitants of the Bible Belt. This background controversy would be of limited interest to British readers, most of whom would be prepared to accept as a working hypothesis the propositions set out on page 6, to the effect that it is reasonable to assume that the universe exists, that it is to some extent orderly, and that it can to some extent be known. In the course of his polemics the author does give a useful account in simple language of scientific method, from the points of view both of theory and of practical maxims. He also stresses the importance of measurement, and where possible of precision, in the study of behaviour. The section on statistics is useful as it indicates how students of behaviour use this tool, an explanation which is all too seldom given.

On the other hand the author ignores thoughtful

and serious critiques of behaviourism like those of Charles Taylor, as well as the profound questioning of Michael Polanyi. Also, he does not make it clear that in discussing the relations between psychology on the one hand, and religion, philosophy, and ethics on the other, he has sufficient respect for the latter disciplines to ensure that the contrast and interaction between them and psychology may be fairly presented. For example, nearly all the references to religion are to Christianity and are critical; there is virtually no consideration of the civilizing or culturally beneficent influence of religions. As regards ethics, considerable space is given to the moral categories which might be acceptable to behaviourist thinking, but very little to the field of moral discourse as this might appear to a moral philosopher. In the result, the book is of value so long as it is giving an account of the activities of behaviourists, but requires to be approached with caution as a guide to the relations between behaviourism and philosophy.

A. B. MONRO.

3. PSYCHOLOGY

Creativity and Personal Freedom. By FRANK BARRON. London and Princeton, N.J.: D. Van Nostrand Co. Inc. 1968. Pp. 322. Price 37s. 6d.

This is a challenging book. We are accustomed to trying to find the aetiology, the psychodynamics of the "ill", the atypical, the asocial. It is really only since the last war that psychiatrists and psychologists have paid equal attention to those whom the community regard as the "good", the healthy, the creative.

As a result of his war experiences. Dr. Barron became particularly interested in the psychological background of courage and resourcefulness, strength in meeting crises, and "the motivation of personal vitality and spirit". This book was first published in 1963 under the title of "Creativity and Psychological Health" but this edition has been retitled as "Creativity and Personal Freedom".

In this book the author weaves together the results of many research projects concerned with those regarded by their peers as high achievers. Over 5,000 individuals took part in the research: 1,500 in intensive and detailed case studies, another 1,500 attended for a day or two in order to take extensive group tests, the remainder provided pilot groups or were used in order to standardize particular tests. To give a few examples: 100 Ph.D. students were rated for Personal Soundness, 100 captains in the U.S. Air Force were screened for Originality, 50

individuals answered the "Inventory of Personal Philosophy". Fifty-six professional writers and nearly as many successful artists were given specially designed tests, including the Barron-Welsh Art Scale which indicates among other things those who prefer complex to simple designs; add the results of a correlation of 33 patients with their six psychotherapists, of how students rated themselves and their parents and vice versa; include work on the effects of psilocybin, and one can easily believe that there were 200,000 correlations to be worked out covering a wide span of individuals and their activities.

The basic tests included the Rorschach, the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory and the Thematic Apperception Test. Of special interest is the author's Ego-strength Scale derived from 68 items of the M.M.P.I. Several tests used, such as the Inventory of Personal Philosophy, the Art Scale and the Word Rearrangement Test, were developed by the writer.

Interspersed among the statistics are pen pictures of different subjects and sample answers to the various tests. There are also the author's own comments on the test findings and how they illuminate the patterns of living which are common today among intelligent Americans. His approach is eclectic, with a slight bias towards psychoanalysis. Does anything new emerge? "Genius is akin to madness" and "The heart has reasons that the mind knows not of" have long been accepted as philosophic truths. The author is well aware of the problem of trying to express in words subjective value-judgments, and he writes "this passage brings together many observations made intuitively by Victor Hugo and arrived at in a more pedestrian manner in this research". In the last chapter, "Violence and Vitality", Dr. Barron indicates his own personal philosophy, and sees the "expansion of consciousness" as the need of today and as the common link between psychotherapy, creative imagination, mysticism and a disciplined use of drugs. Expressing old truths afresh in present-day language is an important contribution to knowledge.

This book is easy to read and can be recommended both to those beginning to work with people who want to start with a wide perspective, and to those from professional disciplines possibly working in a small field and wanting to stand back and refresh themselves with the broad approach. The intuitive who wishes to see how far being objective helps and the intellectual who wishes to find out how far feelings and values can be expressed in defined terms, will both find this book worth reading.

R. F. BARBOUR.

Society: Psychological Problems and Methods of Study. Edited by A. T. WELFORD, MICHAEL ARGYLE, D. V. GLASS and J. N. MORRIS. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1968. Pp. 280. Price 15s.

It is not often that psychiatrists and psychologists have a chance to show off to others. In this book psychological wares are displayed for the benefit of sociologists and anyone else interested in the study of society. Thirteen chapters of diverse content are grouped not very usefully into three parts called Approaches and Methods of Study, Problems Concerning Psychology and Medicine, and Problems Concerning Psychology and Sociology. Individual chapters cover cognitive and personality testing, the study of small groups, statistical surveys, personnel guidance and selection; genetical, social and family-environmental correlates of psychological disorder; criminology, work accidents, the sociology of education, and a discussion on national intelligence.

Stated baldly like this, the only reaction must be to yawn and wonder who such a book is likely to be read by—surely not by any self-respecting sociologist? In fact, parts of the book are interesting. Four chapters particularly are exceptional summaries of complex topics. These are: family environment and mental illness (Russell Davis), statistical surveys (Grebenik and Moser), criminology: an operational research approach (Wilkins) and accidents at work (Cherns); unpromising-sounding titles perhaps, but informed, stimulating and well-written reviews. At the other extreme are the chapters on measurement of abilities, attitudes and personality traits (P. E. Vernon), personnel selection and vocational guidance (Rodger and Cavanagh) and national intelligence (Maxwell), which are trite, tired and uninspired. The main fault with the remaining chapters is that of selection. The authors are all expert, but fail to prune their fields sufficiently for concise and useful discussion. This is particularly so in C. J. Wardle's chapter on social factors in the major functional psychoses, a bad case of thesisaemia.

One of the least useful features is that authors have been encouraged to bring their chapters up to date with a paragraph or two on recent developments, an "addendum" or a "postscript". This method either adds little or nothing, or disturbs the balance of the articles because it is tacked on rather than assimilated.

If this book, whose original history dates from 1962, is to survive, it needs an extensive revision by the majority of authors to raise the standard of the weaker chapters to that of the best.

SIDNEY CROWN.