

Edinburgh, Summer Schools to a mixed public. Accordingly, the lectures are fairly elementary, didactic and rather anecdotal than systematic. They reflect strongly Dr. Biggar's warm personality and commonsense, which temper her belief in psycho-analytical psychopathology. She had a great faith in the curative value of analysis and the analysability of people. According to her, one third of neurotics are so treatable, and she believes that "all neurotic illnesses arise from mental conflicts". There is a lot of imprecise thinking, partly through lack of definition, such as of "deep" and "superficial" analysis, conflict, conscience etc. One wonders as to the foundation for dicta such as "love is the prime mover in our lives, hate and anger are secondary". Her attempt at interpreting one of Yeats' beautiful poems: "Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths . . ." in terms of early rejection of excreta (embroidered!) by mother, made me laugh. But Dr. Biggar's kindness and willingness to accept patients on their own terms, her concern for them and her readiness to see them as whole personalities, as can be taken from every page in this book, testify to qualities of a good therapist and a good person.

These collected lectures are a fine introduction to the field, though they would have to be supplemented by further reading if the student wanted to get a balanced view of child psychotherapy and child development.

D. J. SALFIELD.

**Annotated Bibliography on Childhood Schizophrenia, 1955-1964.** By JAMES R. TILTON, MARIAN K. DEMYER and LOIS HENDRICKSON LOEW. New York and London: Grune and Stratton. 1966. Pp. 128. Price \$3.75.

346 publications are reviewed in the style of the well-known *Excerpta Medica*. They are well arranged in categories, but there is only an author index and no subject index. There are several omissions of important papers on childhood schizophrenia, such as one of Tramer's, although this was published in English in *Acta Paedopsychiatrica*, from which other publications have been excerpted. It appears that only English language literature has been considered.

This Bibliography is, nevertheless, a useful and time-saving tool for finding relevant papers to study and refer to, for anyone writing on the subject, although perhaps the psychiatric section of *Excerpta Medica* would render the same service.

D. J. SALFIELD.

**Personality, Social Class and Delinquency.** By J. J. CONGER and W. C. MILLER. London: John Wiley & Sons. 1966. Pp. 249. Price 60s.

This book describes a study principally designed to determine whether personality traits manifested by boys in various age groups, from kindergarten to the end of the ninth school grade, are significantly related to future delinquency. The design included collection of data biannually from school teachers throughout the child's school life, together with one extensive battery of psychological tests at the end of junior high school. The potential effects of other factors (intelligence, social class, area of residence, educational experience and ethnic group) were controlled through a monumental matching technique which was so difficult that about one third of the sample was lost. Those of the selected children whose records were complete and who stayed in the area through the age of 18 were then followed to determine the incidence of delinquency (minor offences excluded).

At all age grades, evidence was obtained that the size and sometimes the direction of delinquent/non-delinquent differences on a particular trait varies from one social class or IQ group to another, and that the ranges in which these differences occur shift with sub-group membership. It is thus misleading to contrast delinquents with non-delinquents, for analysis of sub-group variation shows that subjects in a particular sub-group may make no contribution to the difference or may even diminish it.

A great many other correlations are demonstrated, many of them rather isolated and difficult to build into any theoretical structure, and in general the authors do not attempt this. Thus, for example, non-delinquent deprived children who were not additionally handicapped by low intelligence, despite their formidable social obstacles, scored high in "favourableness" of teachers' ratings.

The study effectively demonstrates that the potential effects of social class and intelligence cannot safely be ignored in the investigation of personality and behaviour. Thus, to assert that one's theoretical approach to delinquency is either sociological, psychological or economic reflects a "considerable naïveté".

The analysis of social "deprivation", social class and delinquency does not support the Kvaraceus and Miller (or J. B. Mays in this country) hypothesis of the "essential normality", or lack of maladjustment, of lower-class delinquents, and the greater likelihood of emotional disturbance in the higher class delinquents. However, we should remember here that Denver, Colorado, where this sample was collected, is rather special, at least as a locus for delinquency studies, having a high proportion of middle-class residents and a generally favourable standard of living, reasonable employment opportunities and a "relatively flexible upwardly mobile class system".

The authors emphasize the dangers attendant upon the use of the statistical meaning of normality (if enough people are sick then they become the normal ones), and point to the greater accomplishment, emotionally, socially and academically, of the deprived youth who manages to remain non-delinquent in comparison to his better favoured non-deprived counterpart.

One wonders whether the fact that in Colorado, as elsewhere, there are good and bad schools as regards the incidence of delinquency, would prove to be, as Professor Morris has shown in the London Tower Hamlets area, independent of the type of residential area and of the social backgrounds of the children.

Finally, the (not very dramatic) relationships between personality factors on the one hand and seriousness, aggressiveness and repetition of offences on the other is worked out.

A great deal of hard work has gone into this book and a great many facts are forthcoming; it is not, as one might expect, an easy book to read, but it adds appreciably to the knowledge of the subject.

P. D. SCOTT.

**Juvenile Homosexual Experience and its Effect on Adult Sexuality.** By ROBERT OLLENDORFF. London and New York: Julian Press. 1966. Pp. 245. Price 50s.

Firm but contradictory assertions in Parliamentary debates and in legal and medical literature show clearly our continuing ignorance of the significance of homosexual experiences at adolescence in the determination of adult sexual orientation. We badly need systematic empirical research (of Kinsey dimensions, but preferably using a prospective method) to relate the sexual events of childhood and adolescence to subsequent marital adjustment. Despite the title, Dr. Ollendorff's work makes no such attempt. He presents a clinical, impressionistic view based upon questioning a varied assortment of selected adult psychiatric patients about their early sexual experiences.

The thesis runs roughly as follows. In our society, feminine difficulty in attaining orgasm, and the young male's susceptibility to homosexuality, are mass phenomena, sometimes said to affect the majority of the population. Nevertheless, both are lapses from the ideal of sexual health which do not occur in the sex-permissive societies described by anthropologists, where growing children are encouraged in uninhibited sexual experimentation. Homosexuality, therefore, is a neurotic illness encouraged by the sex-negating and prohibitive elements of conventional upbringing. Furthermore, if an individual's first orgasms occur in a homosexual context, this is a powerful conditioning

experience favouring chronic disturbance. Dr. Ollendorff produces no new evidence for this second assertion, and hardly discusses the nature of the emotional drive which carries most people on from auto-erotic, perhaps via homo-erotic, to heterosexual orgasms.

Dr. Ollendorff's new evidence consists of recollections by patients which show much the same mass incidence of adolescent homosexual experience by boys as was reported by Kinsey and by Spencer (1959, *J. ment. Sci.*, 105, 393-405) in studies of normal populations. He gives tables of incidence of adolescent homosexual practices admitted to by patients of various diagnostic groups. The validity of these figures is questionable, not only for the reasons stated by the author himself, but also on account of the absence of detail about the criteria used or how the questions were put. He further describes psychodynamic explorations of both psychotic and neurotic patients, illustrated by extensive case histories. He finds that acute exacerbations of illness are often associated with homosexual conflicts, e.g. panic anxiety when repressed desires are activated, or phobias and depression when heterosexual adjustment fails as a result of underlying homosexual tendency. The case histories certainly show how often patients are preoccupied with sexual confusions and conflicts, and how many difficulties they have in conforming to the ideal of heterosexual maturity, but all sorts of interpretations of these observations are possible.

The material can hardly be said to establish the author's contention that the phase of adolescent exploration is of such special aetiological importance.

D. J. WEST.

### 3. BIOGRAPHY

**Sigmund Freud und die Wiener Universität.** By K. R. ESSLER. Bern: Hans Huber. 1966. Pp. 191. Price DM 25.

The book is a polemic against a publication by the late Professor Gicklhorn, a zoologist, who after the end of the last war took it upon himself to prove that the University of Vienna had been absolutely fair to Freud and that he had only himself to blame for the delay of official recognition. This belated attempt at whitewashing is so feeble that it could have been left unanswered had it not been publicized in the United States. Dr. Eissler, who is the secretary of the Sigmund Freud Archives (New York), took up the cudgels and put the record straight. The author is probably the most knowledgeable student of the history of psychoanalysis today.