

He favours a much more intense subjective approach, and apparently approves of the psychoanalytic training both of psychologists and psychiatrists. It is still very problematical whether lay analysts should be allowed to practice medicine.

The chapters by Griffiths on Marriage and Family Life, by Moodie on Child Guidance, and by Whitehorn on Psychotherapy are well written and informative. Stalker's discussion of the Psychopathic Personality is almost the most specific clinical problem dealt with. He has done it in a comprehensive and satisfying manner, and emphasizes that the concept immaturity which forms so much of the psychopathic state does not mean an inability to mature but rather the potentiality to do so provided the proper help is at hand. The introduction of the Criminal Justice Bill, and the development of criminological science should help to amalgamate the medical and legal viewpoint. That would indeed constitute a forward step in helping a group of people who are in desperate need of assistance.

After a series of articles—very competent articles—dealing with Mental Hygiene, Character Formation in relation to Education, Physical Methods of Treatment, Social and Group Psychotherapy, Personnel selection, Mental Hygiene in Industry, and Rehabilitation, the book, appropriately enough, is brought to a close by a chapter on Psychological Medicine and World Affairs, by Jules H. Masserman. This is most ably done. Criticism is at once stifled by Masserman's apologium. He states at once that he fully recognizes the limitation of psychiatry—and of psychiatrists, but he believes that the study of individual motivations is some excuse for the psychiatrist to enter the field of World Affairs. The note struck, however, is not a particularly encouraging one. He believes that there is reason to suppose that the incidence of psychiatric disorders will rise even more rapidly in our present era of dubious "peace" than it did in war-time. Now, we do not have the stabilizing effect of urgent purpose and the relief of concerted group action. "The entire world seems to be drifting into strangely familiar but now ominously pervasive forms of social psychopathology—and with no refuge in sight."

His principle hope for the future seems to be our ability to organize internationally so as to combat want and fear. He urges psychiatrists to secure some influence on policy-making and governing bodies because our experience with "anxiety ridden men" should enable us to understand the motivations, fears and patterns of action of those who may be the leaders of the nation. That is a laudable hope, it is one which every one would like to see made possible, but it will require many years before leaders are ever likely to cooperate with or be influenced by such a plan.

This book is one well worthy of intensive study, it is most thought-provoking and valuable. The editor should be warmly congratulated on having done a very efficient piece of work. In a future edition a chapter by a Psychiatric Social Worker might be included.

D. K. HENDERSON.

**The Adolescent Child.** By W. D. WALL. London: Methuen & Co., 1948. Pp. x + 206. Price 8s. 6d.

This book attempts to describe the psychological characteristics of adolescents. Information is derived from other works and the author's investigations by means of questionnaires and tests. It suffers severely from clinical weakness, e.g. folie à deux and neurasthenia are wrongly described and Stengel's work on fugue states has made the postulation of a migratory impulse unnecessary. Adequate medical help would have eliminated such mistakes and made the book more readable. As it is, it contains numerous statements about emotional development without the theory that could co-ordinate them and give them meaning, and the work tends to be as dull as a dictionary—but not as accurate.

It is difficult to see for whom it is intended. It is too long and detailed for the parent and too elementary for the student. Perhaps there is room for a book on this subject provided the author shows a sound knowledge of psychopathology, for the difference between the normal and the abnormal is mostly merely a matter of degree. E. S. STERN.

**Occupational and Physiotherapy.** By R. H. FINNEGAN. London: The Actinic Press, 1948. Pp. 127. Price 6s.

This little book is an introduction explaining the nature and scope of the work. There are chapters on history, training, qualifications, special fields, methods, equipment, departmental management, prospects, salaries, etc., covering each type of therapy. The writing is clear and the advice given is sound. There are, however, a few small inaccuracies which should be corrected in the next edition: most girls come from primary schools and so do not hold school certificate, nor is athletic skill highly correlated with craft ability (p. 16), artistry and proficiency in design are as necessary to the occupation therapist as the other qualities mentioned (p. 18), the address of St. Andrew's Hospital is wrongly given in one place (p. 22), and McDougall is misspelt (p. 28). The statement that diabetes is often completely cured if attended to in time is unfortunately untrue.

But these are minor faults, and the book is recommended to those contemplating a career in occupational or physiotherapy. E. S. STERN.

**Inside the Asylum.** By JOHN VINCENT. London: George Allen & Unwin, 1948. Pp. 115. Price 6s.

Too many books are being published in which the author describes his own mental illness as if it was unique and of value to the world, not realizing that such experiences are only too commonplace. In this case, however, unusual insight is shown and the psychosis is related to some of the causative events in an unhappy childhood. At the onset of symptoms he suffered unnecessarily long owing to the failure of his doctors. Such tragedies show how urgent is the need for better psychiatric education of the general practitioner. Some of his criticisms of mental hospitals are ill informed, but others, such as not being told what clothes to bring, being left hungry on admission, lack of privacy and quiet, and clumsy shaving, are genuine enough. He is grateful for the excellent psychotherapy he received. It is a pity that such a well told tale is marred by a sensational dust cover design by G. N. Finch, and an intemperate introduction by Vera Brittain. E. S. STERN.

**Psychiatry.** By WILLIAM C. MENNINGER, M.D. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1948. Pp. xi + 138. Price 2\$.

These are the Messenger Lectures for 1947 delivered at Cornell University. Dr. Menninger gives a scholarly, learned, and readable review of psychiatric history, psychopathology, and social psychiatry. His language is clear and effortless, and even those who are ignorant of the subject will benefit from and be interested by this volume. Indeed it is hard to conceive of the work being better done. The paper, printing and production are excellent, making a tasteful and desirable book. E. S. STERN.

**A Modern Introduction to Psychology.** By REX KNIGHT, B.A., and MARGARET KNIGHT, B.A. Published by University Tutorial Press, Ltd. Price 7s. 6d.

In a small book which sets out to introduce the university student into psychology, one cannot expect an adequate treatment of all aspects of this vast subject. Everything essential should be presented in a clear language