

sophisticated. The authors conclude that 'dynamic therapy'—derived from psychoanalytic concepts, but briefer and with more modest ambitions for altering personality, was the therapy of choice, and was within the competence of an internist equipped with necessary psychotherapeutic skills. Reasons for the limitation of psychoanalysis for these very emotionally dependent people (symbiotic) are not explained as clearly as they might have been, e.g. their 'poverty of emotional expression'; difficulty in free association, non-reporting of dreams, etc. The importance of 'choosing a good match between the personality style of the therapist and the patient' is emphasized, with psychoanalysis considered optional for the few. The book fails to discuss why patients with ulcerative colitis are so sensitive to quarrelling and verbal aggression (i.e. characteristic childhood), the psychopathogenic importance of their failure to develop adult coping mechanisms, and the educative role in psychotherapy to alter these. There is no mention that most of these patients have a cancer phobia at some time, which unless recognized and dealt with in therapy will block progress. References are extensive, but in a book concentrating on the effectiveness of psychotherapy previous reports on the same subject might have been mentioned.

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Dyspareunia: Aspects of Painful Coitus. Edited by H. Musaph and A. A. Haspels. Utrecht: Bohn, Scheltema & Holkema. 1977. Pp 96. £6.00.

This small book is based on a symposium at the University of Utrecht. It begins with a review of psychogenic pain and then has a short chapter on hormonal aspects which concerns principally the problems of oestrogen withdrawal. There are sections on vaginismus, dyspareunia as encountered in general practice and in obstetric/gynaecological practice and finally on dyspareunia after gynaecological treatment. A fairly comprehensive general view of both physical and emotional aspects is given at a level which would be most useful for the medical student, general practitioner or the specialist in a field outside obstetrics and gynaecology. It could be useful to the psychiatrist wishing to have a summary of the physical aspects of this subject. There are moderately extensive bibliographies but a number of references are not in English. It is rather doubtful that the price is justified.

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Changing Human Behaviour: Current Therapies and Future Directions. Edited by O. LEE McCABE. New York: Grune & Stratton. 1977. Pp 253. \$16.00, £11.35.

Readers who expect from its title that this book is concerned with behavioural therapies will be disappointed. So will many without this expectation. The book's authors were asked 'to outline recent developments (in various therapies) and to extrapolate from current trends the shape of the future'.

The first chapter bewails the fate of the world, the second, of personal freedom, and both, of relationship psychotherapy, the last seen as threatened by misguided attempts to evaluate it scientifically. Client-centred therapy provides the basis for extrapolations of astonishing optimism. Existential psychotherapy is related to the 'third force' in American psychology in a chapter providing several anecdotes and one reference.

The future is largely lost sight of in the rest of the book. Behaviour analysis is dealt with in what appears to be an after-dinner speech, complete with joke. An apologia is presented for aversive therapy and the hope expressed that it will go away. Historical accounts of biofeedback and neurosurgery are provided. Reading the latter, one is aware for the first and only time in the book of being in the presence of a critical intelligence. Chapters on pharmacotherapy, states of consciousness, hypnotherapy and LSD psychotherapy follow.

The prospective reader of this book can be reassured that it adds nothing to the information explosion.

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CORRECTIONS

A Bibliography in Dynamic, Familial and Social Psychiatry. Written for the Study Group of the Society of Clinical Psychiatrists by JOHN BIRCHNELL and SHEILA HAFTER GRAY. Pp 135. £1.00.

In the review of this book which covers psychotherapy, art therapy, anti-social behaviour, etc, it was erroneously stated (*Journal*, May 1978, 132, 520-1) that copies could be purchased from ICI Pharmaceuticals Division, whereas copies are obtainable from the Secretary of the Society, Dr M. T. Haslam, Clifton Hospital, York.

Handbook of Psychiatry for Social Workers and Health Visitors. By CHARLES BAGG. London: Constable. 1977. Pp 438. £9.00. Paperback edition available at £5.00.