

pioneer. Some will think that this has advantages as well as disadvantages. For the enthusiastic pioneer does not always convince others, and his views do not always stand the test of time. Moreover, as an eminent modern administrator has stated, the ultimate responsibility for our penal methods rests on the whole body of citizens. And in dealing with human affairs in the raw the method of trial and error has usually proved more practicable and more reliable than a doctrinaire approach. Nevertheless, many readers will agree with the author that there is much truth in his statement that a continual rise of fresh reformative impulses alone can hope to overcome the inevitable human inertia, resentment and misuse of power.

The second part of the book discusses the institutional and non-institutional problems of penology. Here, as elsewhere, throughout the book the reader must assess the statements in strict relation to the context. For an experience in one country may not be comparable to that elsewhere, since better results may be due to more effective planning. He must also be on guard lest examples of individual reactions to prison and punishment blur the general picture. And he must differentiate between them, for in this country an offender is sent to prison as a punishment and not to be punished.

The third and last part of the book deals with juveniles and adolescents, habitual criminals and female offenders. Mentally abnormal offenders and more general matters, such as the trend of penal reform, treatment tribunals and crime prediction are also discussed. The author considers that the pendulum has swung back to-day, and that the modern tendency is to restrict rather than extend the sphere of mental abnormality. He finds that the criminological interest of medical psychology has shifted from insanity to psychopathic personalities, and from the latter to the personality make-up and inner conflicts of normal men and women. For some time past the reviewer has emphasized this aspect, and has found that the difficulties of the subject are not lessened by the fact that some psychologists freely express their views in criminal cases on diagnosis and treatment, which essentially are the concerns of clinical psychiatrists.

The author discusses briefly criminal responsibility and the McNaghten Rules on the usual lines. The inexperienced reader may here erroneously conclude that the Rules are applied in all cases of insanity coming before the criminal courts. He also may not know that the Judges added to their answer to the Lords' Questions II and III that the instructions regarding responsibility should be "accompanied with such observations and corrections as the circumstances of each particular case may require."

The author is to be congratulated on his book; it can be confidently recommended. It is also well produced and is served by a good index.

W. NORWOOD EAST.

**Hormones and Behaviour.** By FRANK A. BEACH. New York and London: Paul B. Hoeber, 1948. \$6.50. Pp. 368.

This book surveys the literature concerning the influence of hormones on behaviour. The bibliography of 65 pages with about 800 references is collected from very varied sources. The subject matter of these papers has been subdivided so as to cover the different categories of behaviour and the author indicates the different types of research and experiment used. He does not attempt to evaluate all the work to which he refers, but leaves it to the reader to consult the original article. A few of the chapter headings will indicate the scope of the book: Courtship and Mating; Oviposition, Parturition and Parental Behaviour; Migration; Homeostasis, Metabolism, Metamorphosis and Moulting; Emotion; Conditioning and Learning, the Role of Nervous Stimulation, Developmental Aspects, etc.

Observations and experiments from a very large number of different forms of life including man are considered. As examples of the kind of information collected may be mentioned the influence of oestradiol on the social organization of hens, of hormones on the nesting behaviour of birds, of sex hormones on the emotional behaviour of rats; the response of fish to mammalian gonadotropins, photo-periodicity in birds and sex differentiation in fowls. Many of the subjects considered are of great importance in animal husbandry and of interest to zoologists, but the book is chiefly intended for research workers and clinicians.

Much of this experimental work is difficult to apply to man whose behaviour is conditioned by complex cultural and social conditions in addition to his endocrinological status. Suggestion, especially from some silver-tongued gynaecologist, may produce psychic results quite unrelated to the actual physiological effect of the particular hormone used in treatment.

This, however, does not diminish the great value of a comprehensive compilation of data in this field. In the words of the introduction, it will be a book of constant reference for physiologists, psychiatrists, zoologists and sociologists, and for all who are interested in deriving from animal experiments the basic principles to be used in analysis of human behaviour.

W. MAYER-GROSS.