

workers pre-eminent in their respective fields, he has produced a standard work which will remain unsurpassed as a reference book for a considerable time to come. Clinical psychiatrists, epidemiologists, psychoanalysts, psychologists, anthropologists, physiologists and therapists of all orientations will find this book invaluable. Among the contributors are Paul Hoch, Winifred Overholser, Paul Lemkau, Harry Freeman, Milton Greenblatt, Kenneth Appel, Paul Benedict and many other well-known authors. The editor who was the sole author of an earlier study on schizophrenia (1947), was well advised this time to share his labours with experienced colleagues. There is no approach to the problem of schizophrenia which is not represented. The bibliography together with author and subject index fills 253 pages. Over 4,000 contemporary studies have been reviewed. This book does credit to the editor and his associates as well as to the publishers.

E. STENGEL.

Imagination and Thinking: A Psychological Analysis. By PETER MCKELLAR. London, 1957. Pp. 219, Price 21s.

The preoccupation of most contemporary academical psychologists with learning theory and, more recently, with problems of personality, has led to a neglect of the study of thinking. Dr. McKellar is one of the few who has made valuable contributions on various aspects of normal and abnormal thought processes, especially in his studies on the effects of mescaline and of hypnagogic imagery. In this book he presents the results of some of his studies, which he integrates with those of other workers. He distinguishes between "R-thinking", i.e., reality-adjusted thinking, on the one hand and "A-thinking", autism, on the other. The former "characterizes sanity and waking consciousness in their more logical, realistic and prejudice-free moments". By contrast, A-thinking is characteristic of sleep and the hypnagogic state. This division cuts across that between normal and abnormal thinking. The book is concerned with the various manifestations of those two types of thinking, their interactions and disturbances. Of particular interest are the chapters on conditions of creativity, on works of art as thought products and on scientific thinking. This is a most stimulating and thought provoking book which is of particular interest to the psychiatrist.

E. STENGEL.

A Compendium of Research and Theory on Stuttering. By CHARLES F. DIEHL, Ph.D. American Lecture Series. Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Ill. Pp. 314, Price 73s. 6d.

It has been estimated that there are at least one million stutterers in the United States. This book contains 193 abstracts of articles on stuttering published in English. Each abstract consists of four paragraphs under the headings: purpose, experimental design, summary, conclusions. According to the subject matter, the material has been ordered into five sections, i.e., history, symptomatology, aetiology-physiological, aetiology-psychological, therapy. Each chapter has a bibliography of additional reading references. This compendium presents a new and highly effective method of abstracting selected literature for the use of practitioners and research workers in a specialized field.

E. STENGEL.

The Organic Psychoses. A Guide to Diagnosis. By J. G. DEWAN and W. B. SPAULDING. University of Toronto Press. 1958. Pp. 170.

The authors must have felt that owing to the preoccupation of most psychiatric research workers with the "functional" psychoses and the neuroses, there was a danger of the organic mental disorders being neglected. Medical students and general practitioners will find this book useful. The postgraduate student of psychiatry will find it uneven and insufficiently comprehensive and scholarly for

his requirements. It is a primer rather than a monograph. Its unsophisticated practical orientation and easy readability should recommend it to those with little time or no mind for consulting more ambitious texts.

E. STENGEL.

Der Mongolismus. Erscheinungsbild und Herkunft. (Mongolism. Manifestations and Origin). By KARL KÖNIG. Hippokrates-Verlag, Stuttgart. Pp. 278.

The author has for many years been one of the leading authorities in the care and management of mongoloid children and adolescents. He wants his book to be regarded not only as the product of his close study of mongolism, but as the outcome of his personal relationship to his mongol patients, for whom he obviously has a deep affection. He is convinced that mongolism appeared suddenly about a century ago and has spread in our civilization like an epidemic ever since. The book falls into three parts. The first deals with the manifestations and distribution of mongolism. The author agrees with those who regard acute or chronic exhaustion of the mother's reproductive capacity as an important aetiological factor. He believes that male mongols are more frequently born during summer than females, the majority of the latter being born in winter. He views the mongol as a primitive human species rather than the outcome of a maldevelopment, and he regards the recent discovery of the abnormal chromosomal structure as a confirmation of his theory. He attributes the exhaustion of the reproductive capacity to a reversal to the matriarchal hierarchy in the families concerned. Thus mongolism presents primarily a sociological rather than a medical problem. In the final chapter the author presents some valuable observations concerning care, education and treatment of mongols. The book will be read with interest by workers in this special field, even if they should not follow the author's theories, which he presents with commendable modesty.

E. STENGEL.

Behavioral Analysis: Analysis of Clinical Observations of Behavior; as Applied to Mother-Newborn Relationships. By DAVID M. LEVY. Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A., 1958. Pp. xxxiv+370. Price 72s.

The attitude of the mother to her newborn child has been widely regarded as a factor of importance in determining the latter's immediate and perhaps future well-being. There has, however, been little attempt to measure objectively what her attitudes may be, by, for instance, observation of the mother's behaviour. Dr. Levy has long been interested in the subject of maternal attitudes and describes how the present investigation arose out of his study of mothers of patients seen in the practice of child psychiatry. Then, by trial and error, he selected a series of questions to form the basis of a "standardized" enquiry of maternal attitudes. Following from this, the present study, which involves the use of "scores" of maternal attitude was concerned with the observation of mothers and infants in the neonatal period. A trained observer stayed at the foot of the bed and recorded the behaviour of mother and baby, through a feeding or non-feeding time, for 2 or 3 periods, with special reference to the mother's response to the baby, nurse or others. A heterogeneous group of 19 mothers in 4 hospitals was chosen for the purpose. The observation records were then rendered into convenient units representing a numbered series of separate maternal responses and were rated by 4 "judges". Scores were compiled and compared with those obtained from standardized interviews of the mothers; a significant and positive correlation was found between the two. The mother's observed behaviour with her newborn baby could be predicted from an assessment of her maternal interests from questions concerning her past history.

The whole book is devoted to a very detailed description of the methodology used; the analysis of the observations made and a critical appraisal of their validity or otherwise. The readers will need to judge their value for himself. However, as Dr. Levy points out, such methods may be applicable in general to observations of relational behaviour, especially of type relationships of pairs, whether human or