

in these conditions than we have realised. It seemed to me possible that if persecutory anxiety is the affect most relevant to the paranoid-schizoid position and guilt the affect relevant to the depressive position, then perhaps shame is the most prominent affect in the borderline position.

Despite its shortcomings, this book deserves careful study and psychoanalysts and psychiatrists will I think find it useful.

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Methods in Clinical Pharmacology: Central Nervous System. Edited by M. H. LADER and A. RICHENS. London: Macmillan. 1981. Pp 164. £20.00.

This slim volume is a collection of essays on a particular aspect of psychopharmacological research i.e. the measurement of the effects of psychiatric drugs of several kinds by a number of authors who have achieved prominence in this field. There are reviews of neuroendocrine markers, neuromuscular transmission, tests of autonomic function, sleep, extra-pyramidal manifestations, antidepressants, neuroleptics, analgesics and anticonvulsants. The contributions on antidepressants and antipsychotic agents are particularly instructive and readable. However, given the format of the book, it is inevitable that its content is determined by the interests of the authors rather than a systematic analysis of the subject, though these frequently coincide. Nevertheless, there are some puzzling omissions. I searched in vain for a reference to the anxiolytic drugs and the vitamins. There is an understandable preoccupation with research into the use rather than the equally obscure questions posed by the misuse of drugs (and alcohol). The price seems relatively high, even for these inflationary times. However, though the preface makes it clear that the work is directed towards those intending to do research, much that is useful can be gleaned by the practising clinician, anxious to keep himself up to date.

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Current Psychiatric Therapies. Vol. 20. Edited by JULES H. MASSERMAN. New York: Grune & Stratton. 1981. Pp 416. \$54.50.

This 20th anniversary volume deals fairly comprehensively with treatment currently available, including psychotherapy for the child, adolescent, adult and family, cognitive therapies, behaviour therapy, psychopharmacology and management in the community. With a few exceptions it lends no

support to Oscar Wilde's view of British and trans-atlantic English and, by and large, is well written and informative. However anyone wishing to check rapidly on current thinking will be frustrated as the index probably belongs to another book. Nevertheless the evident differences in some respects between practices on the two sides of the Atlantic make for an interesting read. One cannot imagine an NHS psychotherapist offering the option of several more years of treatment to a couple following a marital crisis. Infidelity and the possible consequences of separation and divorce appear to be the province of the American psychiatrist rather than the marriage guidance counsellor. I read with fascination advice about the therapeutic milieu for behaviour therapy—"Photographs or busts of Sigmund Freud (or) Adolf Meyer may appeal to the cognoscenti while diplomas . . . books . . . attest to his or her own competence. Unostentatiously placed models of musical instruments, a sailboat, a small plane . . . trophies . . . show the therapist's breadth of human interests . . . statues of Moses, Buddha . . . reassure the religiously minded". Meanwhile, out in the community North Americans have been experiencing at first hand the effect of a vigorous drive to discharge chronically ill patients and have been as unprepared as the English were. Elsewhere I read, open-mouthed, of underutilization of services for the elderly. Informative, interesting but overpriced.

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Involuntary Institutionalization: Changing Concepts in the Treatment of Delinquency. By J. T. T. M. FELDBRUGGE and Y. A. WERDMULLER VON ELGG. Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica. 1981. Pp 106. \$21.25.

This small book is a most original piece of work celebrating the 25th jubilee of the Dr Henri van der Hoeven Kliniek, in which the authors describe the history of the psychodynamic therapeutic community approach to patients who exhibit extreme criminal behaviour. In order to elucidate the intricacies and difficulties in evaluating and treating such offenders they present a fictitious case history and then invite an impressive team of professionals from different disciplines, working within the forensic field, to give their views on the treatment programme, the medico-legal implications and the legislation in The Netherlands. The advantages and disadvantages of the concept known as T.B.R. (involuntary institutionalization at the government's discretion) are discussed very fully and they then present an accurate picture of the treatment programme in their very specialist unit.