

cases with disorder of space perception, observed in the neurological and psychiatric university clinic in Vienna. The author divides disorders of the experience of space into (1) those in which visual perception in space is disturbed and (2) those where the integration of perceptions into a spatial schema has been affected. Spatial agnosia belongs to the latter group. It causes constructional apraxia. The author describes the syndrome of hemianagnosia of space. Like other workers, he found a prevalence of right-sided occipito-parietal lesions in cases of spatial agnosia. There was no consistent localization of the lesions in the second group of disorders.

The author relates the disorders to the development of spatial experiences from infancy and to the evolution of the body image, which he believes to be completed only at the age of twelve. The cerebral representation of visual space depends on the integration of visual, opto-kinetic and vestibular perceptions.

The book is a contribution to the knowledge of the disturbances of the body image, which is a borderline concept between neurology and psychiatry.

E. STENGEL.

L'Hyperostose Frontale Interne. By J. C. SCOTTO.

Paris: Expansion Scientifique Française. 1965. Pp. 144 + vii. No price.

Hyperostosis frontalis interna has a peculiar fascination for psychiatrists, for its prevalence is higher in psychiatric patients than in controls, yet it is not associated with any specific psychiatric disorder.¹ This book reviews the extensive and contradictory literature on this subject, and is of great interest. However, the almost entire omission of a quantitative approach greatly detracts from its value. The disorder is commoner in females than males, yet the sex-ratio in various age-groups is not given. A few families are mentioned in which more than one member was affected, yet there is little indication how common is a familiar concentration of the disorder, and whether affected relatives show the complete syndrome. The disorder is recognized by a thickening of the internal table of the skull, susceptible of measurement, yet measurements in normals and in affected persons are not given, and it is, therefore, not clear whether the criterion is a qualitative or quantitative deviation from the norm. When information of this sort is not given, speculations on a possible functional disorder of the hypothalamus seem premature.

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¹HAWKINS, T. D., and MARTIN, L. (1965). *J. Neurol. Neurosurg. Psychiat.*, 28, 171.

4. PSYCHOLOGY

New Horizons in Psychology. By BRIAN FOSS (ed.) Harmondsworth: Penguin Books. 1966. Pp. 447.

This is intended to be a stimulating book in which the aim is to present the most recent developments in various fields of psychology and to point out "exciting developments in coming years". The selection of topics is narrowed down by the emphasis on the application of experimental approaches and a bias towards physiological and animal studies. There is very little reference to the possible applications of the work reported.

There are 21 contributors, and the book is divided into five main sections: viz: Perception, Thinking and Communication; Origins of Behaviour; Physiological and Psychological States; Learning and Training; Personality and Social Psychology. One can only judge such a book by the extent to which it achieves its avowed aims. It should be remembered that it is not intended for professional workers only, but for the informed general public. With so many different contributors, one cannot expect anything like a uniform style of presentation, particularly since some topics are, by their nature, more abstruse than others. Nevertheless, some of the writers succeed in putting across even the most complicated aspects of their subjects. Others, though able research workers, remain unable to communicate the essentials of their subject, and even the sophisticated reader would be hard put to follow. Until those engaged in basic research learn to present their findings in a way that can be easily understood by our administrators and teachers, they have no grounds for their complaint that insufficient notice and funds are given to worthwhile projects.

It would be unfair to criticize the Editor for the selection of topics and the authors for the incomplete coverage of the subjects dealt with. However, some sections and chapters are conspicuously incomplete. For example, the treatment of Operant Conditioning fails to do justice to the rapid and interesting developments because it omits the application of this method to the analysis of human behaviour.

Here and there, there are factual errors, e.g. on p. 279: "Introverted subjects... show the reverse behaviour. They are centrally *inhibited*..." This is not what Eysenck's Theory maintains. It is hoped that these errors will be amended in future editions.

The book is not intended specifically for those interested or working in the field of mental illness. However, there are several chapters which have particular relevance: viz: "The Genetics of Behaviour", by K. Connolly; "The Role of the Brain in Motivation", by P. M. Milner; "Early Experience",