

complexities of the subject. Next is a chapter by Murray Barr on the significance of nuclear sexing for diagnostic psychiatry. Then, four successive related chapters by Frederick Kasten on brain cytology, Bruce McEwen on the biochemistry of memory, the late Lord Brain with a clinical and theoretical contribution on the subject of memory and Macdonald Critchley with one on body image. Next, come sections on hypnosis by Stephen Black, sleeping and dreaming by Ian Oswald, sensory deprivation by Philip Solomon and Michael Rossi (this is a particularly comprehensive review), hallucinations by Louis West, model psychoses by Elliot Luby and Jacques Gottlieb, and the neuro-physiological basis of thought by Wilder Penfield.

The second half of the book starts with an Eysenckian salvo on the contribution of clinical psychology to psychiatry. It includes, of course, his inevitable onslaught on psychotherapy, in which he carefully identifies the powerful and destructive influence of psychoanalysis on young clinical psychologists, a viewpoint from which he does not dissociate himself, whilst at the same time dismissing it as an important force in treatment. Next, a chapter by the Editor on the psychopathology of schizophrenia, in which he summarizes critically the work by Bowen, Lidz, the Palo Alto group, the earlier work of Wynne and his associates, and others. This is followed by a clear account by A. V. Snezhnevsky of Soviet views, conventional in kind, on the nosology of schizophrenia, and a chapter by Robert White who presents the newer more self-critical approach emerging within psychoanalysis. In the next chapter, Gion Condrau and Medard Boss show once again how the philosophy of existentialism makes indigestible reading for biologically and scientifically oriented psychiatrists. A brief chapter by K. Ikeda on Morita therapy displays its theoretical basis, scope and limitations. Then we have a Russian contribution by K. Monakow on the the Pavlovian basis to psychopathology, followed by a chapter by Joseph Wolpe on behaviour therapy in which no reference is made to much of the extensive recent British clinical contribution.

In the next chapter, on hypnosis in the U.S.S.R. including 'collective' hypnosis for groups of people, the author, N. Ivanow, finds a theoretical affinity and harmony between this approach and the existing political philosophies and social order in Russia. This is followed by Arthur Shapiro writing on the placebo response. 'Clinical Perspectives in Psycho-pharmacology' is entrusted to the pioneers Jean Delay and Pierre Deniker, and the result is a somewhat brief statement which does, however, touch on such very relevant issues as drug dependency. The volume is

concluded by chapters by the Editor on family psychiatry, by Maxwell Jones on community psychiatry, a chapter by E. Wittkower and P. E. Termansen on the former's present main interest—transcultural psychiatry—and, finally, a chapter by P. Sivadon, with the wealth of ten years' extensive study of the subject behind him, on the construction of separate psychiatric hospitals. This latter concept, somewhat heretical to our present planners is presented in such a way that it may have attractions to those who believe that the community aspects of a large psychiatric in-patient complex can sometimes be harnessed therapeutically, but that this is more difficult in the inevitably more cramped quarters of a conventional general hospital setting.

It is hoped that this run through of subjects will serve to stimulate interest in others to look at this book, which contains within many of its sections informed and valuable critical reviews and an abundant collection of references.

A. H. CRISP.

The Year Book of Neurology, Psychiatry and Neurosurgery (1967-1968 Year Book Series).

Edited by R. P. MACKAY, S. B. WORTIS and O. SUGAR. Chichester: John Wiley and Sons, Ltd. (for Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago). 1968. Pp. 684. Price 112s.

In the past this annual digest may have justified itself in its present form, but it becomes a progressively difficult task for it to do so now in an increasingly competitive field and with the need to sift such a huge literature. Thus, in the introduction to this 1967-8 series a total of about forty distinguished editors are said to have critically reviewed more than 175,000 articles published in the world's foremost journals during the year—around twelve articles per editor each day of the year.

So far as psychiatry is concerned, the task rests with, or perhaps has been supervised by, a neurologically oriented psychiatrist, and his final selection is sandwiched somewhat uneasily between similar distillates of neurology and neurosurgery. Some effort has been made to appear to have scrutinized a few English-language journals other than North American ones, but the resultant selection is hardly convincing in this respect. To be able, under one cover, to read uncritical precis of papers about suicide in Papua and New Guinea, memory in mice analysed with antibiotics, Feldman's controversial paper on psychosomatic aspects of ulcerative colitis (seemingly regarded as one of the three important contributions to the psychosomatic literature last year), army psychiatry in the mid-1960s,

infarction of the spinal cord and effect of halothane on intracranial pressure in cerebral tumours, etc., may be of some value to the dilettante, but is only likely to irritate those seeking a less selected, more reasoned and thorough assessment of any one scene.

In conclusion this book is of some value for those psychiatrists with half an hour for browsing, for those with a neurological rather than biological bent, and those who do not have access to *Excerpta Medica Psychiatrica* and the appropriate monthly digest from the Institute of Living.

A. H. CRISP.

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY

Psychopharmacology: Dimensions and Perspectives. Edited by C. R. B. JOYCE. London: Tavistock Publications. 1968. Pp. 430. Price 63s.

This book is seventeenth in the *Mind and Medicine Monographs* (edited by Michael Balint) and is as difficult to review as it must have been to edit. It is a pot-pourri or slum gullion and no collective noun (not even psychopharmacology) can exactly convey its contents. One salutary outcome is to compel a reviewer to read the text.

Perhaps the most economical exposition of the ingredients will be to list its twelve chapter headings: basic pharmacological principles, basic psychological principles, principles of animal experimentation, historical considerations, antidepressive drug therapy, hallucinogens, psychological factors in controlled evaluation, social and epidemiological aspects, ethology, basic neuroanatomical methods, undernutrition and the developing brain, what is pain?

As if to forestall criticism of his selection, Dr. Joyce astutely notes that 'almost any science would have something to contribute, so it is scarcely necessary to justify the actual selection'. The implicit intention is to cross-pollinate different ideologies by asking contributors from several countries to explain their various disciplines to 'the man in the next laboratory'. Does the intention bear fruit?

Some contributors manage to avoid any reference to drugs. For instance, Professor Foss on basic psychological principles is quite overshadowed by Dr. Maxwell's self-sufficient chapter on animal experimentation, full of explicit examples relevant to psychopharmacology. The fact that one author works in an academic and the other in an industrial setting may explain their different approach. But even when it appears irrelevant, this book is often educative and readable; a paradox most apparent in Dr. Dobbing's intriguing account of malnutrition and its effects on the developing pig's brain. At other

times, this obliquity becomes irritating; the chapter on the nature of pain is a protracted semantic quibble delivered in a diluted form of Socratic dialogue. Any further edition might profitably replace semantics with statistics (which the author is well qualified to do).

The diversity within this book is among its several compensations; one may learn the amount of LSD required to incapacitate an elephant or the contemporary implications of discovering a cure for scurvy. On a less trivial level, there are excellent contributions of clinical and biological interest. Two essays offer refreshingly novel insights into clinical problems; the editor's own chapter is predictably thought-provoking about the meanings of control and pitfalls in planning trials, while Dr. Adams makes a plausible effort to interpret the clinical process in plain language. (Even though his final case history might have been blighted in the cold air of an old time Maudsley Monday morning.) On the biological side, Dr. Weatherall's chapter on basic pharmacological principles is clear, concise and full of worthwhile key references.

Psychopharmacology has so recently developed from an art to a science that few yardsticks are available with which to compare a new textbook. But strangely, this book appeared almost simultaneously with Shepherd, Lader and Rodnight's *Clinical Psychopharmacology*. The two volumes are as different, but as complementary, as their origins from the Maudsley and (indirectly) the Tavistock would suggest. The one is objective, unimaginative, complete and precise; the other involved, provocative, selective and discursive. Some of these differences are made more explicit by the reiterated plea in the present volume for more single patient studies of patient-drug interaction to supplement large scale clinical trials. Those who have indulged this whim soon learn that the intriguing insights into basic individual mechanisms seldom permit generalizations or predictions to other individuals or groups. Psychopharmacology still awaits its Freud. One chapter in this book suggests that the new ethology has pretension to satisfy this need when the author proudly describes it as 'observation without scientific interference'. Isn't this where the clinical trial came in, and isn't that what psychopharmacology is mostly about? This book is recommended for anyone with an open mind and an interest in psychopharmacology—in that order.

B. BLACKWELL.

SUICIDE

Prevention of Suicide. Public Health Papers No. 35. Geneva: World Health Organization. 1968. Pp. 84. Price 8s.