

known material to be re-exhibited, but with such new comments as Angermeyer's that the effects of family intervention measures are in the opposite direction to that predicted by labelling theory. (What does Scheff think?) He also identifies the success of such intervention as being in the extent to which it modifies non-specific factors which are either stressors or moderators of social stress. Leff usefully makes clear that in schizophrenia, the association between EE and relapse is non-specific and cannot account for the particular form of the disorder.

In a magisterial summing-up, Häfner is optimistic that competing theories about schizophrenia need not be mutually exclusive, but could represent different aspects of the same central function. Although advances in genetics and in biological investigation seem most rapid and are securing most attention today, it might in fact be epidemiology – a tortoise rather than a hare – which really illuminates the fundamental nature of this protean disorder. WHO's international studies increasingly suggest a close parallel between the distribution of schizophrenia and that of moderate–severe mental retardation, so that research effort in one field could well have significant overlap into the other. This volume, notwithstanding some problems of translation, is probably the most comprehensive single discussion of current ideas and developments in research on schizophrenia, and should be read by everyone with a serious interest in the subject.

HUGH FREEMAN, *Editor, British Journal of Psychiatry*

An Introduction to Neuropathology. By J. HUME ADAMS and D. GRAHAM. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. 1988. 309 pp. £29.95.

This book is written for general pathologists, particularly those in training, and for clinicians interested in the neurological sciences. The authors' stated aim has been to convince general pathologists that a proper examination of the brain and spinal cord is a straightforward exercise, and to achieve their objective they have provided a well-illustrated section on post-mortem technique, valuable notes on the dissection of an infant's brain, a simplified description of the development of the central nervous system, and a section of applied neuroanatomy, all of which are very useful. Most welcome of all, however, is their insistence that in virtually all circumstances the brain should be fixed in formalin *before* its examination.

The meat of the neuropathology section is also wholesome, with detailed informative sections on vascular and hypoxic disorders (25 pages), cerebral trauma (18 pages), and cerebral oedema (12 pages), and a particularly interesting chapter devoted to the neuropathological effects of vitamin deficiencies and neurotoxins.

Almost inevitably however, a book of this size will have some weaknesses; in particular, there is virtually no mention of the neuropathology of epilepsy, even though the death of a patient in an epileptic fit is not an unknown problem in the working life of an autopsy pathologist. In addition, the chapter on 'Ageing and the dementias' (6 pages) is minute compared with others. This difference in emphasis obviously reflects the interests of the co-authors, but it also leads to some imbalance in an otherwise excellent volume.

The book can be highly recommended for its intended audience, but it is not so valuable for young psychiatrists training for their MRCPsych. They will find much more to their liking in the relevant chapters in Greenfield's *Neuropathology* or Shepherd's *Handbook of Psychiatry*.

C. J. BRUTON, *Neuropathologist, Department of Neuropathology, Runwell Hospital, Wickford, Essex*

The Halfway House: On the Road to Independence. By SYLVIA L. GOLOMB and ANDREA KOCSIS. New York: Brunner/Mazel. 1988. 244 pp. \$30.00.

An authoritative source like the substantial volume of research reviews accompanying the recently published Wagner Report *Residential Care: A Positive Choice* (*Residential Care: The Research Reviewed*, HMSO, 1988) discloses – yet again, some might say – that, compared with other client groups such as the mentally handicapped or children in social need, the adult mentally ill are notably ill-served by the available literature. Golomb & Kocsis provide a useful addition: a clear and comprehensive 'state of the art' description of work in mental health hostels. The book occupies a territory between the literature on psychiatric rehabilitation and that on residential work, and may be recommended to the growing body of psychiatrists with clinical responsibilities in this area and also to their community psychiatric nurse, social work, and residential or day care colleagues.

The authors are social workers attached to the Futura House Foundation, New York. It gradually becomes manifest that although they write in generalisations they are mainly describing the practice of a particular institution. The social context is explicitly American, but their practice, as described in seven substantial chapters from intake through to aftercare, is very much in line with that of good quality British hostels. They are helpfully clear about their management of such familiar tight corners in residential work as clinical relapse, violence, suicide threats, and love affairs between residents.

The model in operation, which could with advantage have been more clearly and succinctly set out, provides for stays of, typically, 20–24 months for discharged in-patients or direct community admissions. Residents are out of the place, at day hospital or in employment,

through the normal working week; they generally have therapeutic oversight (from psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker) elsewhere and will have given informed consent to the exchange of clinical information with the hostel; they will have a weekly session with a 'counsellor' (a residential care staff member) who is the "eye and ears of the social worker"; additionally, there are roles for the agency director (in periodic reviews) and, if necessary, other staff, including the consulting psychiatrist. The regime is fairly highly structured and staff-directed, but patients are expected to share the domestic chores, there is a weekly community meeting, and so forth. The ideology is one of encouraging the maximum individual autonomy, and the method focuses principally on "functional assessment in relation to environmental demands" – a level of behavioural analysis intermediate between the broader generalisation represented by a psychiatric diagnostic label and more detailed statements concerning individual psychopathology. An illustration is the description (in one of the numerous clinical vignettes which are an attractive feature of this book) of getting, in the space of three months, a 31-year-old woman with a 10-year history of schizophrenic disorder who was "worse than incompetent in the kitchen" to be able to cook a dinner for ten with "... comfort, competence and pride in her mastery".

This, then, is a useful training text; we can also see what it is not. It includes no evaluation; it is not comparative; and it is not as theoretically sophisticated or consistent as, for example, Jansen's *The Therapeutic Community* (Croom Helm, 1980). But such comments constitute as much a criticism of the contemporary state of residential theory and research as of this book; as such, they are also a prescription for the next decade of investigation in social therapeutics.

D. W. MILLARD, *Fellow of Green College, Oxford*

Psychological, Neuropsychotic and Substance Abuse Aspects of AIDS. Edited by T. PETER BRIDGE, ALLAN F. MIRSKY & FREDERICK K. GOODWIN. New York: Raven Press. 1988. 279 pp.

Perhaps in no other disease process is the concept of holism (as opposed to reductionism) so vital as in the understanding of AIDS. The purist might, however, argue that a single human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), at the very moment of possible infection, is subject to laws of quantum mechanics. He or she might assert that whether or not a person becomes infected is dependent on the interaction of the gp120 molecule of the virus coat and the CD4 sites of the macrophages and lymphocytes, which in itself depends on molecules and atomic interaction, which in turn may depend on the uncertain behaviour of electrons or their leptons.

This book contains 23 chapters on a wide variety of AIDS-related issues, and is edited by three distinguished members of the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Many of the authors are household names in the psychoneuroimmunology field.

Some of the chapters seem at first to have little bearing on AIDS and HIV disease. They discuss various neuro-receptors (e.g. transferrin, insulin, *raf* proto-oncogenes) in different brain sites. It is a little difficult to understand the relevance of 'Acetylcholine reception and the rabies virus' to this book's subject. Yet another chapter is devoted to the theoretical use of event-related brain potentials in HIV disease.

There are a number of chapters on psychological aspects of AIDS and the immune system, with a fascinating and relevant chapter on Voodoo, stress, and AIDS. Other chapters are devoted to the effects of nitrites on HIV disease, the effects of various drugs of addiction and alcohol on HIV progression, and a thought-provoking chapter on the psychoimmunoneurology of HIV disease. The short chapter on neuropsychological testing of HIV does not discuss the other much larger studies on this topic that were presented as long as two years ago at the international AIDS conference.

Finally, there are chapters on classical conditioning and immunomodulation, and on stress, life events and types of behaviour that put people at risk of HIV disease.

This book is on the whole well written and exciting. All psychiatrists should read it.

DAVID GOLDMEIER, *Consultant Venereologist, St Mary's Hospital, London*

Facts, Fallacies and Frauds in Psychology. By ANDREW M. COLMAN. London: Hutchinson Education. 1988. 224 pp. £6.95.

As a change from an edited book of papers by other people, Colman has selected seven contentious areas in psychology to discuss himself. The benefit of a single author is in the continuity of style, but the debit is that the attempt to cover an exceptionally wide canvas is inevitably touched by his personal outlook. Progressing through the book, one guesses more and more accurately which perspective he will take on his next subject, his overall view being somewhat left of liberal.

For example, Colman begins with a clear view of the complex ideas involved in intelligence tests, but is fashionably against their use. In fact, he describes the I I Plus exam as more divisive than social class or money, and "a notorious use of psychology". Of course, Cyril Burt is said to be a scoundrel and much of the evidence of intellectual differences between individuals "mere superstition". Having spent two chapters discussing IQ and its relationship to race, he ends lamely that we can