

book's presentation. I am firmly convinced that well-chosen illustrations are invaluable in introducing new concepts, and four figures and twelve tables for a 550 page book seems rather miserly. No doubt to improve on this would increase the book's cost, which at £2.95 for the accumulated experience of a professional lifetime in the field represents excellent value.

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**Neurology for the Non-Neurologist.** Edited by W. J. WEINER and C. G. GOETZ. Philadelphia and London: Harper and Row. 1981. Pp 426. £13.00.

It is a long-standing criticism of neurologists that much of the expertise required to safely recognise and treat neurological disorders is not readily accessible to those without neurological training. Even in the age of the CT scan and the evoked response much depends upon clinical technique and this skill is won only by hard work and experience. Nonetheless, all those working in psychiatry and, indeed, other specialities will meet patients with neurological disorders, whether recognized or unrecognized, and it is therefore important for non-neurologists to achieve some skill, at least in recognizing the existence of a possible organic neurological disorder in a patient referred inappropriately. Further, it is clearly also helpful to recognize the scope of neurological disability and its possible complications.

This book sets out to explain the mysteries of neurology for those not directly involved in clinical neurology. Whether such a book is needed at all is a question that, perhaps, merits discussion since there are a very large number of neurological textbooks, both small and large and several of these provide an excellent and wide-ranging account of the subject. This book, however, is selective and as such provides an inevitably biased and uneven approach. The format is multi-author-style, most of the contributors coming from Chicago, and bears the hallmark of the American mid-West. Patients are "given" diagnoses, the arms are always referred to as "upper extremities", nouns are persistently used as adjectives, and slang such as "in general" irritatingly pervades the text. Psychiatrist readers will be astonished by the cursory coverage of tension headaches, and by the absence of any account of the protean manifestations of depression. The possibility that attacks of altered consciousness might have a psychiatric origin is not mentioned and the management and prognosis of patients with cerebral tumours is exceedingly brief. There are better written chapters on stroke and neuromuscular disorders, but the non-neurologist reader would be better served by

a more carefully thought out and briefer text, with a wider remit than this book.

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**Eating, Sleeping and Sexuality: Treatment of Disorders in Basic Life Functions.** By MICHAEL R. ZALES. New York: Brunner/Mazel. 1982. Pp 328. \$25.00.

This collection of reviews is explicitly presented on behalf of the American College of Psychiatrists as a timely contribution to the 'growing interest amongst mental health professionals in the basic life functions'. This book is not for those looking for information concerning relationships between these functions within psychiatric morbidity although the excellent basic introductory chapters to each of the three sections by Garfinkel and Coscina, Orr, and Levine respectively come closest to this in their treatment of a relevant biological and social systems.

Otherwise the book mostly contains expert and up to date statements by internationally known authorities in such discrete areas as anorexia nervosa (Halmi), obesity (Stunkard, Castelnuovo-Tedesco), sleep disorders (Roffwarg, Williams, Karacan) sexual dysfunction (Marmor). As an apparently convenient makeweight the College has slipped in at the end the script of an eponymous lecture by Axelrod, the contents of which are totally unrelated to the other contents of the book. It is entitled "The Fate of Catecholamines and its Impact in Psychopharmacology". The space might better and more logically have been used for a concluding contribution to the theme of the book, attempting to review and bring together where appropriate the earlier compartmentalized contributions.

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**Annual Progress in Child Psychiatry and Child Development. 1981.** Edited by STELLA CHESSE and ALEXANDER THOMAS. New York: Brunner/Mazel. 1982. Pp 682. \$30.00.

The *1981 Annual Progress in Child Psychiatry and Child Development* really needs no review except perhaps to draw it to the attention of those who have so far managed to remain in ignorance of the existence of the services. The authors have maintained the high standard of the previous volumes and have presented a fascinating mixture of original work and review articles, the latter in particular, having long and useful lists of references.

Which articles are singled out for comment depends on one's own personal interest and orientation as they range from studies on infant observation to the aetiology of child abuse and include a consideration