

and depression. Here the author includes the thoughtful and erudite views of Kraepelin, Freud, Bleuler, and others but he also introduces the reader to philosopher-psychiatrists like K. Jaspers and K. Schneider, who are not as well known in American psychiatry. The patient material offered for illustration is well selected and to the point.

The main appeal of the book is that it allows the reader to follow and share the thoughts of a sophisticated and brilliant mind. Dr. Oppenheimer offers a broad spectrum of different disciplines, including neurophysiology, philosophy, psychoanalysis, descriptive psychiatry, and even art to highlight or underline psychiatric symptoms and disease.

It is not easy to read this book. The language of neurophysiology and psychoanalysis is already difficult to begin with and Oppenheimer, with his exhaustive vocabulary, does not make it any easier. Oftentimes the reader wishes that the author had found a simpler way to explain a thought or idea, without such words as "apophanous," "phonemes," "apposite," "educible," "arcane," and so on.

Medical students with a more than fleeting interest in psychiatry as well as residents and psychiatrists will find this monograph interesting and stimulating.

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Homeopathy

Homeopathy in America: The Rise and Fall of a Medical Heresy, by Martin Kaufman, 205 pp, \$10, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1971.

In publishing his doctoral dissertation, the author has made available a large amount of hidden sources, buried literature, and archival material dealing with homeopathy in America. There is, however, little synthesis into a coherent picture, for the major focus seems to rest not on homeopathy as a whole but rather on the conflicts between the homeopaths and allopaths.

The author does not provide new insights into the rise of homeopathy as a vigorous movement. He over-emphasizes bloodletting and "heroic treatment" as the soil in which homeopathy took root, and provides no adequate account of its actual growth, its leaders, its schools, its general appeal. Nor do we get an adequate picture of its heyday and its decline in the latter 19th century. An undue

amount of space is devoted to the 20th century, when homeopathy already had lost most of its significance. The book is weak in the social aspects of medical history. Yet despite its limitations, the work furnishes much useful material which will contribute to the eventual total picture of American medicine.

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Pediatric Plastic Surgery

Plastic Surgery in Infancy and Childhood, edited by John Clark Mustardé, 581 pp, 474 illus, \$22, Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co., 1971.

All fields of pediatric surgery have grown spectacularly over the last 20 years. Dr. Mustardé has assembled an international group of 27 surgeons who have contributed to this development. Throughout the book the authors have selected topics which are relevant to children and have taken care to establish principles which take into consideration the growth potential of young tissues. The chapters on congenital deformities of the face are concise and thorough. The authors of these chapters give us the benefit of their own experiences in the management of the various defects but also refer to alternate opinions. In particular the chapter on deformities of the jaws is excellent because Professor Obwegeser of Zurich presents European methods of treatment which are based on his great experience with more radical facial bone surgery.

Many pediatric syndromes are characterized by peculiar facies; untreated, these children grow up to present to the world a monstrosity of a face. Fortunately, some of the very serious deformities are now amenable to surgical palliation or correction. The details of these unusual operations are described by clear line drawings and their results are documented with preoperative and post-operative roentgenograms and photographs.

An entire section, on the plastic surgery of the trunk, represents the considerable overlap between the various surgical specialties and reflects increasing involvement of the plastic surgeon in treating myelomeningoceles and genitourinary defects. While this book is primarily directed to the treatment of congenital defects, traumatic lesions of the face and tumors of the head and neck are also dealt with. Unfortunately, these topics are a bit disorganized and scattered throughout several chapters.

Hand trauma was completely neglected, even though the preface stated that plastic surgeons are accepting responsibility for the whole spectrum of hand surgery.

Since children with anomalies of the mouth and jaws may present difficult airway problems, a chapter on anesthesia would have been helpful. Also, since we are all aware of the acute psychological problems caused by minor facial blemishes in teen-aged children, a chapter on the emotional management of a child with severe facial deformity would certainly be in order.

This book's main strength is in its excellent up-to-date review of the treatment of congenital facial deformities. If for this alone, it should be valuable to plastic surgeons.

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In Brief

Manual of Clinical Mycology, by Normal F. Conant, D. T. Smith, R. D. Baker, and J. L. Callaway, ed 3; 755 pp, 299 illus, \$13.50, Canada \$13.90, Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co., 1971.

Originally a pocket-sized manual for military use in World War II, to guide the treatment of fungous diseases, this book proved superlatively adequate. New data necessitated marked expansion, but it is still conveniently small, compact, and well illustrated. Well balanced among the disciplines involved, sufficiently detailed for most practitioners, and nominally priced, it is highly recommended for internists, dermatologists, and mycologists.

Famine: Nutrition and Relief Operations in Times of Disaster, edited by Gunnar Blix, Yngve Hofvander, and Bo Vahlquist (symposium, Swedish Nutrition Foundation, Saltsjobaden, Sweden, Aug 1970), 200 pp, with illus, Sw.kr. 50, Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksells, 1971.

Aykroyd, Passmore, Mayer, the Jelliffes, and other authorities on malnutrition explore the problem of famine—its historical patterns, causes, effects (physical and social), treatment, and prevention—with particular emphasis on recent experiences in Eastern Nigeria and Bihar, India. They recommend the establishment of permanent national and international "famine relief organizations" and the outlawing of starvation as an instrument of war.