

quently how often the diagnosis of malingering is an expression of the doctor's own conflict.

"Prophylaxis and Therapy" form Part V and is followed by a collection of "Special Topics." The chapter on "Group Psychotherapy" is not quite up to date and is academic. Reconditioning and rehabilitation, two topics which deserve as much space and consideration as the induction examination, are mentioned too briefly.

This book as a manual of military neuropsychiatry is of outstanding quality and contains answers to many of the problems of the psychiatrist in the services.

E. GROTJAHN

KLUCKHORN, CLYDE: *Navaho Witchcraft*. Papers of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology. Harvard University, Vol. XXII, No. 2. Cambridge, Peabody Museum, 1944.

Fortunately the questions cultural and social anthropologists ask are becoming more and more significant in terms of an understanding of modern society—an understanding that is so badly needed. In the work under review Kluckhorn has taken as subject matter Navaho witchcraft. Instead of stopping with an ethnological description of witchcraft among the Navaho he has asked the question: What is the place of witchcraft in the general operation of Navaho society? Emphasis is "focussed upon the structural dynamics: on the one hand, the actual value of contemporary Navaho witchcraft beliefs and practices for the preservation of the equilibrium of Navaho Society and its component individuals, on the other hand, the 'cost'—the disruptive effects—of such beliefs and practices."

In the first section the author presents the data on the practices and beliefs centering around witchcraft. In the second section he gives his interpretations of the data, first from the viewpoint of history and distribution, and then from a psychological viewpoint. It is the latter part of the monograph that should be of particular interest to readers of this Journal. For here, Kluckhorn is interested in Navaho witchcraft "as providing culturally defined adaptive and adjustive responses." He asks, among other questions, "Why have witchcraft patterns (whatever their historical source!) survived through the periods to which our material relates?" Kluckhorn looks for an answer, partial at least, in the socialization process and Navaho childhood experiences. In regard to the "latent," rather than "manifest," functions of Navaho witchcraft the author sums up by saying: "Witchcraft is a major Navaho instrument for dealing with aggression and anxiety. It permits some anxiety and some malicious destructiveness to be expressed directly with a minimum of punishment to the aggressor. Still more anxiety and aggression is displaced through the witchcraft pattern assemblage into channels where they are relatively harmless or where, at least, there are available patterns for adjusting the individuals to the new problems created. Individual adjustment merges with group adaptation." Kluckhorn makes a good case for his hunch that witchcraft in Navaho culture is a "substitute" for race prejudice.

Kluckhorn deals almost exclusively with the functions of witchcraft from the viewpoint of the victim, or the one who thinks he is being victimized. The problem also is inter-

esting from the viewpoint of the witch, in terms of adjustment for the society and the individual. Kluckhorn points out the kinds of individuals who are accused of witchcraft. Interestingly these are the very people who, like the aged, might really have hostility, or who might have hostility projected on them, like the rich, and might have anxiety on that account.

It struck this reviewer that Kluckhorn could have strengthened his interpretations by dealing more in terms of what Kardiner calls the "projective system." For instance, Kluckhorn speaks of Navaho mythology and general cultural ideology stressing capricious and malevolent forces in the world to which the individual reacts. But these very ideas are an outlet for anxiety, as well as a creator of anxiety. The author uses Murray's terms, *alpha press* and *beta press*, in his discussion of the point, which to this reviewer seems to confuse more than it clarifies when used in this particular context.

We need more studies like the present one under review. Such studies give us understanding of process in culture; of the uses to which individuals put the cultural material at their disposal; and of the whole problem of continuity in culture. It is only in this way that we can understand the processes at work in our own particular culture.

SCUDDER MEKEEL

CRISP, LEO H.: *Essentials of Allergy*. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott, 1945, 381 pp. \$5.00.

The author, a specialist in medicine with interest and experience in allergic conditions has written a concise and fairly complete outline of allergy. The theoretical fundamentals, their practical application, and the therapeutic conclusions are as well covered as are definitions of terms, nomenclature and case histories. A student or physician needing orientation in the field of allergic phenomena will be well satisfied with Dr. Crisp's publication which contains the optimal dose of known facts. A special discussion of skin tests used for diagnostic purposes in clinical medicine is appropriately included.

Those physicians who feel that allergic phenomena are, in many instances, mainly due to psychic influences will be somewhat disappointed in the cursory manner in which the author has touched upon psychosomatic problems. The few hints given under "General Therapeutic Measures" with three illustrative case reports do not do justice to the tremendous importance of psychogenic factors in the appearance and disappearance of allergic symptoms. If one only considers the frequency with which one of the most serious allergic conditions, bronchial asthma, defies every attempt to establish a specific allergen responsible for the attacks, one should hope to find a candid admission that the present knowledge of allergic phenomena is incomplete.

A greater emphasis on psychological factors and psychotherapy seems therefore as justified as the meticulous enumeration of huge batteries of skin tests or elimination diets which may possibly act only via psychic pathways rather than by specific desensitization.

This criticism does not detract from the value of the book as a primer in allergy, but, as in many other fields, the

happy balance between the "scientific" and "psychosomatic" attitude has still to be established.

K. E. LANDÉ

SOKOLOFF, BORIS: *The Civilized Diseases*. New York, Howell, Soskin, 1944, 309 pp. \$2.00.

This well written book is really a kind of introduction for the lay public to modern medicine and its problem. By an intelligent and careful approach the reader is guided through the maze of present-day internal medicine. In stressing the influence of certain factors innate in our western civilization and habits of living, in emphasizing the importance of dietary measures and of psychological factors, a positive, optimistic attitude towards diseases is sustained. Case histories support the author's discussions. Dr. Sokoloff succeeds in inspiring confidence in modern methods of diagnosis and treatment.

If one considers popularization of the medical sciences a desirable aim one has to admit that this book represents one of the better attempts to accomplish such a purpose. Those who believe that popularization only breeds ignorance and hypochondria will disagree. However, it seems to the reviewer, that the tenor of the whole book is such that perhaps a few readers will be induced to consult their physician in time for cure of a carcinoma or for some other form of modern treatment, instead of coasting along or seeing a chiropractor. In other words, if people want to learn about their ailments, Dr. Sokoloff has given them a handy tool to do so

K. E. LANDÉ

KLEIN, DAVID BALLIN: *Mental Hygiene; the Psychology of Personal Adjustment*. New York, Henry Holt Co., 1944, 511 pp. \$4.00.

The attempt to cover thoroughly the fields of psychopathology, clinical psychiatry, education, prophylaxis, and the program of "positive mental hygiene" all in one volume, is too ambitious a project. The result is that the book is decidedly uneven in quality, with some sections, notably on clinical psychiatry, falling far below others. The recurrent emphasis on prevention and the need to work out "techniques of better living for all of us and not merely those who are potentially threatened by the specter of "mental disease" is excellent.

Some of the writing has a trenchant fiery quality, particularly with reference to one aspect of mental hygiene which one rarely finds even mentioned, though we are all dimly aware of its importance. He writes: "For about 70% of American families the security in which wholesome family life should live, move and have its being is either non-existent or, at best, uncertain. All along the line—in matters of health, of longevity, of housing, of education, and of judicial protection—this security is menaced. In the light of what has already been said concerning the importance of emotional and other kinds of domestic security for the achievement of balance and self-assurance and personality integration for growing children, it ought to be obvious that grave mental hygiene issues are bound up with the relative poverty of more than two-thirds of American families. These are issues with which professional mental hy-

gienists cannot cope." The psychiatrist aware of his role in society, cannot escape the implications of these truths.

There are passing references to the role of psychosomatic medicine, a subject which is rather inadequately presented.

H. F. LANDER

BARTON, BETSY: *And Now to Live Again*. New York, D. Appleton Century, 1944, 150 pp. \$1.75.

This book was written as a guide for those who have been seriously disabled through injury, disease or war. The author herself experienced a severe injury to her spine in an automobile accident 10 years ago, resulting in paralysis of her legs. Although the book is not autobiographical the author relates many of her own experiences in the long difficult struggle from complete invalidism, both physical and emotional, back to a life of health and happiness.

Much of the book is written in very general terms; often it becomes philosophical, and the latter part particularly has a strong religious note. Nevertheless, the author has expressed in simple terms certain fundamental psychological facts relating to the problem of illness, convalescence and rehabilitation. First of all she emphasizes the fact that all people react emotionally to injury and disease and that in the rehabilitation program the entire person, not just the paralyzed limb or blinded eye must be treated. Unless the "rescue work" or emotional rehabilitation takes place early, Miss Barton points out how the "mind retreats and hides and withdraws from the painful points of contact with reality." Essentially the author is stating that illness fosters regression and dependence. With this in mind, the need to return the disabled person as quickly as possible to normal living and independence is stressed: just as a soldier suffering from an acute traumatic neurosis of war should be given immediate treatment and returned to fighting as soon as possible. In order to accomplish this Miss Barton envisages the establishment in the large cities of Centers as way-stations between the hospital and the home for the re-education of the person who is disabled.

OTHILDA KRUG-BRADY

KARNOSH, LOUIS J., and GAGE, EDITH B.: *Psychiatry for Nurses*. St. Louis, C. V. Mosby Co., 1944, 339 pp. \$2.75.

The content of this book reflects the authors' thorough understanding of the needs of the student nurse during her course in psychiatry. From beginning to end they adhere to the fundamental and important principle stated in the preface of the need for emphasizing "the basic elements of psychiatry in as concrete and practical a manner as possible."

While the general organization, illustrations, case histories, and subject matter remain essentially the same as the first edition, there are several timely additions. The latter include a brief introduction to the concept of psychosomatic medicine, information about tests employed in evaluating personality traits, intellectual capacity and various types of performance, uses of electroencephalography, a discussion of psychosurgery as treatment in involuntional melancholia, and a section on electric shock therapy. The references and ques-