

devoted a chapter to the subject of psychiatry in general practice. They point out that whether he likes it or not the generalist and the family doctor have to deal with vast numbers of psychiatric problems. In the wide field of psychiatry, these generalists will find here everything they need to know, written in the most acceptable prose, a virtue to be prized in any textbook.

**Influences on parent behaviour.** LOIS MEEK STOLZ. London. Tavistock Publications. Pp. viii+355. Price 65s.

This is one of the Stanford Studies in Psychology, a university not far from San Francisco. The interest of the book to us is in the presentation of deliberate parent attitudes in a country sharing so much culturally with our own, yet in many fundamental ways divergent from ourselves. The 39 families (78 parents, 111 children) were both hand picked and self selected in the sense that all knew the purpose of the enterprise and co-operated in it. The range of class, race and religious beliefs was a wide one. Parents were interviewed separately and by different interviewers who did not collaborate during the actual enquiry. The project attempted to explore and classify the variety of influences on parent behaviour, not to describe the results of applying such influences. In addition special attention was focused on the social setting of the evening meal, and on the subject of obedience.

This book is loaded with statistical tables, to an extent that the small size of the population scarcely appears to warrant. It is the discussion of the main leanings in interest and consciousness that is interesting to us who are professional parents in this country. The different approaches to similar objectives of mothers and fathers are wide and interesting. The three predominant 'oughts' for parents show up as to educate, to provide emotional security, to control; whereas mothers discussed intelligence, fathers achievement and superiority, mothers' emphasis was on getting along with people, generosity, tolerance, fathers' on education, orderly living, social manners, especially in large families and with the father's increasing age. Independence ranks highest among the fathers' aims. Mothers' discussions naturally appear to be family-orientated, and the fathers' with wider dimensions.

It would appear that the paediatricians' advice is followed closely by the mothers, and that mass media influence them greatly. Advice from the teachers and psychologists is appreciated far less.

The anglo-saxon puritanical, even nonconformist background recurs again and again no matter what the racial origins. This was the flavour that impressed and interested the reviewer on a personal visit, staying in many households a few years ago. This reader began the book reluctantly and became reluctant to stop reading it. Only the children don't seem to be having much fun in these families, where parental control and example loom overpoweringly in theory at least.

**Lecture notes on cardiology.** First edition. J. S. FLEMING, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P. and M. V. BRAIMBRIDGE, M.A., M.B., B.CHIR., F.R.C.S. Oxford and Edinburgh. Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1967. Pp. 317. Price 35s.

In the past decade several useful but rather similar introductions to cardiology have been published, but this one is different. It is primarily designed for those who wish to widen their interest in cardiology beyond coronary and hypertensive