

REVIEWS OF BOOKS : BOEKRESENSIES

RORSCHACH TESTS

Rorschach Location and Scoring Manual. By Leonard Small, Ph.D. Pp. 214. \$6.50. London and New York: Grune & Stratton, Inc. 1956.

Contents: Introduction. Instructions. Rorschach Location and Scoring Manual.

In 1911, Herman Rorschach, a psychiatrist, began to experiment with ink-blot tests, and out of these experiments there developed what has since become a widely used technique known as Rorschach Testing. The test aims at a detailed investigation of personality and the results depend upon the analysis of the candidate's interpretation of a standard set of ink-blot cards. The Rorschach is accepted as being one of the most valuable of numerous available personality tests but to become an efficient Rorschach tester requires years of specialized training and experience in the technique.

The manual under review will have meaning only to an individual who has been fully trained in the Rorschach testing. Its sole purpose is to present an indexed system of scoring according to the multiplicity of responses which can be elicited by application of Rorschach ink-blot cards. It is bound to be of very great value to the Rorschach tester.

H.C.

CANCER OF THE MOUTH

Oral Cancer and Tumours of the Jaws. A guide for the diagnosis of oral cancer and benign tumors. By George S. Sharp, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.R. (Ther.), Weldon K. Bullock, M.D., M.Sc. (Path.), John W. Hazlet, D.D.S. Plates 645. Pp. xi + 561. \$15.00. New York, Toronto, London: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.

Contents: Foreword by Hayes Martin, M.D. Preface. Introduction to Parts One and Two. *Part One. Introductory Principles for Neoplastic Diseases.* 1. The History of Cancer. 2. The Origin of Cancer. 3. Classifications of Oral Neoplasms. 4. The Biopsy. 5. Precancerous Pathology. *Part Two. Tumors, Benign and Malignant, of the Oral Mucosa and Accessory Cavities.* 6. Lesions of the Lips. 7. Lesions of the Tongue. 8. Lesions of the Floor of the Mouth. 9. Lesions of the Gingivae. 10. Lesions of the Cheeks. 11. Lesions of the Hard and Soft Palate. 12. Lesions of the Nasal Cavities and Paranasal Sinuses. Introduction to Part Three. *Part Three. Neoplasms, Benign and Malignant, of the Jaws.* 13. Tumors of the Epithelium. 14. Benign Neoplasms of Connective Tissue. 15. Malignant Neoplasms of Connective Tissue. 16. Neoplasms of Reticulo-endothelial Tissues. 17. Lesions of Vascular and Nerve Tissue. 18. Metastatic Bone Tumors. Introduction to Part Four. *Part Four. Quasi-tumors of the Jaws.* 19. The Exostoses. 20. Fibrous Dysplasia. 21. The Reparative Granulomas. 22. Other Diseases of Bone Simulating Tumor. 23. Odontogenic Hamartomas. Introduction to Part Five. *Part Five. Cysts of the Jaws.* 24. Nonodontic Cysts. 25. Odontic Cysts. Index.

This book is exactly what the notice on its dust cover claims it to be, 'A guide for the diagnosis of oral cancer and benign tumours'. As far as this goes, the work is a comprehensive atlas of oral pathology and many of the pictures (all in black and white) are outstanding examples of the art of clinical illustration. However, in a way the book disappoints me by overemphasizing the pictures and neglecting the text. It thus defeats its own purpose and leaves the reader wanting more information.

The book deserves a place on the shelf of every surgeon, dentist and clinician dealing with oral conditions. It is too specialized

for the general practitioner but is an ideal reference book which should be available in libraries for consultation by the perplexed.

The reviewer criticizes the fact that whereas many pictures of successful cases are shown, 7 or more years after diagnosis, the failures are not shown and there is no indication how many failures occur and what proportion of cases are successfully treated, so that a wrong impression can be obtained from reading this book.

This is misleading. A book on oral cancer should make it clear that in general, only the minority of cases with carcinoma of the mouth get cured. No preferred line of treatment is offered, and no indications for various forms of therapy, so that although the illustrations are wonderful, one must conclude in reflection that not one is necessary once it is accepted that a patient with a lesion of the mouth must have a proper biopsy taken and be examined by a competent pathologist.

T.S.

CORONARY ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Study Group on atherosclerosis and ischaemic heart disease: Report. *World Health Organization: Technical Report Series*, 1957, No. 117; 40 pages. Price 1s. 9d., \$0.30 or Sw. fr. 1. Also available in French and Spanish. Local Sales Agent: Van Schaik's Bookstore (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 724, Pretoria.

This report discusses the present status of knowledge on the aetiology and pathogenesis of atherosclerotic and ischaemic heart disease and advises on means of broadening this knowledge so as to provide an eventual basis for effective prevention work.

Ischaemic heart disease is defined in the report as the cardiac disability, acute and chronic, arising from reduction or arrest of blood supply to the myocardium, in association with disease processes in the coronary arterial system. The two main pathological processes involved are atherosclerosis of, and thrombosis in the coronary vessels. Atherosclerosis includes several quite distinct intimal processes, such as fatty changes, fibrous thickening, fibrin incorporation, and calcification. In ischaemic heart disease—the end product of atherosclerosis—multiple causative factors must therefore be considered. These multiple factors may operate differently and thereby produce different pictures, in individual cases and in the disease as it occurs among various ethnic and social groups.

The main conclusion of the report is that the control and prevention of ischaemic heart disease can be brought about only as a result of improved knowledge of the relation of environmental factors and ways of life to the pathogenesis of the disease and to the consequent morbidity and mortality. The lack of information on the relation to coagulation and thrombosis of such suspected factors as genetic and environmental influences, sex, specific inborn metabolic disorders, arterial hypertension, diet (with particular reference to dietary fats), level of physical activity, stress, strain and mental tension, deserve special emphasis in research work. Possible psychological factors also need adequate study. Suggested lines of research are set out in the report, including, in an annex, a detailed description of the type of epidemiological study most likely to provide useful results. A second

annex, on public-health aspects of the disease, deals with such matters as case-finding; screening; diagnostic, social, laboratory and nutrition services; rehabilitation; and so on.

The need for the standardization of both clinical and pathological criteria and terminology in respect of ischaemic heart disease, thaerosclerosis and related conditions is regarded as sufficiently urgent to warrant the recommendation that WHO should organize a study group to undertake this task. It is also recommended that WHO should continue and expand the collection and regular publication of mortality statistics on cardiovascular and related diseases, and should consider giving assistance to national statistics services in developing the analysis of mortality by occupation and social class. Attention is also drawn to the need for improving the collection and recording of mortality data and for greater standardization of terms and procedures. Simple field studies on the basis of death certification in different countries might, it is thought, quite quickly reveal the possibilities and limitations of the international comparisons now so commonly made. Greater use of insurance company data on heart disease is advocated as an additional means of assessing the importance of the problem.

Further recommendations deal with the cooperation of FAO in studies on dietary habits and food consumption and WHO help in the training of research personnel and in various other suggested activities.

THE MOON IS FULL

The Moon is Full. By Aileen Adair. Pp. 200. 12s. 6d. net. London: Allan Wingate. 1957.

Contents: Preface. 1. I was Born in a Mental Hospital. 2. I Become a Psychiatrist. 3. The Neurosis Centre. 4. Private Practice. 5. I Go North. 6. The Lunatic. 7. The Snake-Pit. 8. The Clean-Up. 9. A Teaching Hospital. 10. Case Histories. 11. Social Life in a Mental Hospital. 12. The Law and the Lunatic. 13. A Mental Defective Colony. 14. Mental Defectives. 15. Juvenile Delinquents. 16. Escape. 17. Foreign Nurses. 18. Life Sentence without Trial. 19. 'The Mad Doctor'. 20. Out-Patients. 21. 'Physician, Heal Thyself'. Epilogue.

The glimpses which this book gives of life and conditions in mental hospitals in England is far from flattering; but then, facts seldom flatter. It is interesting reading in spite of suffering from the disadvantages that often accompany autobiography, and the author can be congratulated on her presentation of a subject which could be drab. There is hardly a facet of the life that has escaped her notice and record, and she makes some penetrating observations on the confinement of defective patients who might

be usefully employed in sheltered conditions—outside an institution.

Generally it is light reading for the layman rather than the practitioner, but most doctors will find it interesting particularly if their work does not bring them into close contact with the mentally defective or disordered.

A.H.T.

THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH

The New Public Health. Fourth Edition. By Fred Grundy, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Pp. 214. Illustrations 21 + 23 diagrams. 18s. net. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1957.

Contents: Section I. Local and Central Government. Section II. The National Health Service Act 1946, and Organized Medicine. Section III. Social Security and National Insurance. Section IV. The Health Department of Local Authorities. Section V. The Medical and Welfare Services of Local Authorities. Section VI. The Maternity Services and the Midwife. Section VII. The Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases. Section VIII. The Arithmetic of Health and Disease. Section IX. Social Medicine and Environment. Section X. Other Subjects of Importance. Appendices. List of Diagrams. Lists of Tables and Graphs. List of Illustrations.

This little publication, which has been especially compiled for health visitors, midwives and social workers, attains all that it sets out to do. The fact that it has reached its fourth edition in eight years indicates only too clearly that it is fulfilling a need and has attained that popularity which it so well deserves.

Whilst the main accent is peculiar to Britain and the present organization of the national welfare state in that country, attention is also drawn to the importance of the prevention and control of all types of infectious diseases, the social aspects of medicine and to elementary vital statistics.

The author, who writes in an easy and interesting manner, has arranged his material in such a way that it is readily assimilable by even those individuals with little or no medical or nursing background.

The graphs, charts and photographs are clear and illustrative and the book is printed on very high quality gloss paper.

I have no hesitation in strongly recommending this book to persons anxious to obtain reliable and readable information of the present organization, administration and functions of the British National Health Service Act of 1946. The general message which is evident in all the chapters has a wider application and can with benefit be assimilated by medical students, midwives, health visitors and social workers in this country.

E.D.C.