

NIERSIEKTES

*Nierenkrankheiten. Physiologie, Pathophysiologie, Klinik und Therapie.* Von Prof. Dr. H. Sarre. xx+540 Seiten. 118 Abbildungen. DM 59.-. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1958.

Hierdie is 'n baie geslaagde boek binne die beperkinge wat daar altyd is op 'n boek van hierdie gehalte. Professor Sarre het gepoog om binne die bestek van 550 bladsye die hele ingewikkelde probleem van nierpatologiese fisiologie en -chirurgie saam te vat op so 'n wyse dat dit vir die student, sowel as vir die algemene praktisyn, en selfs vir die uroloog, 'n nuttige en handige boek kan wees. Dit is my mening dat hy hierin baie goed geslaag het.

Die afdelings van die boek is baie duidelik uiteengesit. Die besprekings van elke individuele onderwerp is kort en bondig en bevat alleenlik die essensiële stof wat op die huidige oomblik van belang is. Selfs met betrekking tot die nuutste eksperimentele werk was dit vir my baie duidelik dat professor Sarre in alle opsigte homself op hoogte gehou het en ook wat van belang is, hier in die boek weergegee het.

Ek het verskillende gedeeltes van die boek met groot belang nagegaan, aangesien hy juis geskryf het oor onderwerpe op urologiese gebied waarin ek self belang stel, en dit is vir my baie duidelik dat professor Sarre in hierdie afdelings homself besonder goed van sy taak gekwyf het. Dit is my mening dat dit waarskynlik dieselfde sal wees met die ander gedeeltes van die boek.

Die een nadeel verbonde aan hierdie boek is dat dit in Duits geskryf is en derhalwe is die afset hier in Suid-Afrika tot 'n mate ietwat beperk. Maar vir dié geneeshere wat wel die Duitse taal magtig is, kan ek dit alleenlik aanbeveel as 'n baie goeie toevoeging tot hulle biblioteek, en 'n boek wat ek voel vir hulle werklik van praktiese belang sal wees in die behandeling en hantering van enige nierprobleem, of selfs niernavorsing. Vir die student kan dit van groot nut wees, en ek kan dit ten sterkste aanbeveel as 'n baie goeie teksboek vir die student in sy finale kliniese jare, wat belangstel in niermoelikhede, medies sowel as chirurgies.

J.N.deK.

DYNAMICS OF PSYCHOTHERAPY

*Dynamics of Psychotherapy.* The Psychology of Personality Change. Volume III. Procedures. By Percival M. Symonds, Ph.D. Pp. xxxv+607. \$6.50. New York and London: Grune & Stratton Inc. 1958.

This book brings to a close a valuable addition to the literature on psychotherapy. This volume deals with techniques used by the therapist; the first volume had described general principles, and the second had dealt with psychotherapy as it affects the patient. The total work is most useful to all who use interview methods and it makes excellent reading and is clearly presented.

The work is more than a review of the literature on psychotherapy. Professor Symonds has attempted to coordinate into a coherent body of theory the contributions from different schools. The basic orientation derives from psychoanalysis, with its medical and biological emphases. The attitude of Carl Rogers contributes

a 'client-centered' orientation, a stress of minimal activity from the therapist, so that the patient himself arrives at a change in his perception of the self. Like Rogers, a non-medical therapist, the author holds that psychological disturbances represent not illnesses but learned behaviours of maladaptive sort. The psychotherapeutic encounter provides the 'client' with opportunities for relearning.

The author reflects how broad a field of observations await a more scientific definition. The critical reader may object that much of the extensive writing on psychotherapy quoted by the writer is excessively subjective, impressionistic, and uncontrolled by scientific methodology. Only a few critics would still doubt that psychotherapy is effective in treating psychoneurosis. It is clear that the therapeutic change is brought about by the patient's emotional experience in treatment, and that the doctor's task is to engender this tide of feeling, and control it so as to be therapeutic. The author has described the techniques of training, practice and personal emotional education enabling the doctor to do psychotherapy.

However, not all the systems of theory comprising contemporary medical psychology can claim scientific status. Measurement, prediction and control require to be exercised if an adequate methodology is to be established for psychotherapy. Aspects of the therapeutic process can be evaluated objectively; what happens between the patient and doctor can be studied with tape recording and film. Moreover, the privacy of the treatment relationship, once considered inviolable, has been shown by group therapy to be dispensable. The patient can in time ignore that there is an observer behind the one-way screen.

Professor Symonds has not concerned himself with these attempts to validate psychotherapeutic theory. He has succeeded in providing a clear text-book of current practical procedures in psychotherapy.

H.W.

ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAPHY

*Elektroencephalographische Studien bei Hirntumoren.* Von Priv.-Doz. Dr. R. Hess. IV + 100 Seiten. 8 Abbildungen und ein Tabellenanhang. DM 19.80. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1958.

In this book the author analyses the electro-encephalograms of 682 patients with verified brain tumours. The different forms of abnormal electrical brain activity are discussed and their relations to the localization of brain tumours is critically analysed. There are a great number of tables depicting the different abnormal waves found in tumours in different localizations.

The book is a comprehensive contribution to the diagnostic importance of this form of clinical investigation, but leaves no doubt that localization by this method is uncertain and at present cannot supplant the investigations of air studies or arteriograms in the exact localization of brain tumours necessary if surgery is to be performed.

H.L.d.V.H.