

personal research are reported, based on a rather large material, consisting of 319 (114 genetic and 205 environmental) cases of microcephaly and their respective families, mainly collected through the genetic register of the Institute for Human Genetics of the University of Münster.

For the environmental cases, brain damage could be attributed to either pre-, peri- or post-natal factors. For the genetic ones, various factors could be found, among which, especially, hereditary metabolic troubles (enzyme defects).

This booklet will certainly be of interest to clinicians, pathologists and human geneticists, and it is a pity that the use of the German language and the relatively high price will prevent many of them to appreciate it.

Leukocyte Chemistry and Morphology Correlated with Chromosome Anomalies

Edited by Arnold R. Kaplan and Margaret A. Kelsall (Consulting Editors), Peter D. Albertson (Editorial Director) and Marc Krauss (Editor-in-Chief). The New York Academy of Sciences, New York, 1968. Brochure; 15 × 23 cm. 375 pages including numerous tables and black-and-white illustrations. US \$ 18.00.

Proceedings of the homonymous conference held by The New York Academy of Sciences on November 3-5, 1966.

The existence of family and community clusters of leukemia and/or other malignancies; the high correlation of increasing maternal age with a number of anomalies (which, rather than confined to Down's syndrome include anencephaly, hydrocephaly, spina bifida as well as miscarriages and stillbirths); the documentation of the induction of chromosome breakage by viruses, as well as by numerous chemical compounds, are among the main facts faced by this Conference, organized with the aim of examining the relations between clinical and pathological, genetic and cytogenetic and biochemical factors of the leukocytes.

Over thirty papers have been given in the course of four main sessions: (1) Chromosome

Studies; (2) Leukocytes in Genetic Anomalies; (3) Leukocyte Alkaline Phosphatase; (4) Neutrophils in 21 Trisomy and the Leukemias.

I Resti Ossei Umani delle Necropoli dello Swat (W. Pakistan)

Parte I: Butkara II

(Human Bone Remains from the Swat Necropolises, W. Pakistan)

Part I: Butkara II

By G. Alciati. Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente - Roma, 1967. Series: Reports and Memoirs, Vol. VIII.1. Paperback; 25 × 34 cm. XI+66 pages; 4 tables + an additional, special one, summarizing anthropological data; original drawings (craniograms); 26 plates of black-and-white illustrations (including 52 photographs of the skulls). Price: L. 4500 (approx. \$ 7.00).

In the region of Swat (W. Pakistan), an Italian Archaeological Mission, sponsored by the *Centro Scavi* of the Italian Institute for Middle and Far East, has so far discovered some 500 graves, organized in a number of necropolises. The latter have been shown to belong to the Assakenoi, or Asvakayana tribe and their allied population, which lived in Swat and the surrounding regions some 3000 years ago.

Butkara II, described in this book, represents a necropolis discovered in the Jambil valley and consisting of some 50 graves, for which a radiocarbon dating has provided the figure of 2425 ± 40 years, corresponding to about 475 b. C. On account of the study of the manufactures, especially pottery, the necropolis may be assigned to the pre-Buddhist age, which is also confirmed by the existence of an overlying Sacred Buddhist Precinct. Later on, when, after the Maurya period, these tribes assimilated the Buddhist and Hindu culture, the tombs disappear, owing to the changes in funerary rites.

The tombs of this necropolis have shown the existence of both semi-cremation and inhumation rites. In a number of them, multiple burials must also have occurred.

A total of 29 individuals could be ex-

amined: 12 males, 7 females and 10 of non-identified sex. On account of measurements, morphological characteristics and craniograms, they appear to form a fairly homogeneous group: cerebral skulls are generally high, very long and narrow, the face narrow and low, the pyriform and orbital openings of average type; the stature has been calculated to be generally higher than 1.70 m. As a result, this group does not show mongoloid features and might be related to the proto-Mediterranean type. On account of its geographic situation, the Swat region might be considered to have been a genetic isolate for a long time, so that the morphological traits of its inhabitants should be largely unaltered.

Further studies, already planned, should help clarifying the genetic nature and evolution of this population.

Psychiatry and the Deaf

Edited by J. D. Rainer and K. Z. Altshuler. U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare - Social and Rehabilitation Service, 1968. Bound volume; 15×23 cm; XIV+160 pages; 6 black-and-white illustrations; 3 tables. Price not indicated.

Here is the report of a workshop for psychiatrists on "Extending Mental Health Services to the Deaf", sponsored by the New York State Psychiatric Institute and the New York University Center for Research and Training in Deafness Rehabilitation.

Some 50 psychiatrists convened from all over the U. S. to exchange and discuss their experience on psychiatric and psychological work with the deaf. As Dr. Rainer puts it, "the history of psychiatric concern for the deaf is a recent one, and we have much to learn from one another".

A large number of problems has, in fact, been raised, concerning service to the deaf, teaching of the deaf, and research.

The importance of this meeting — the first one concerned with the isolated world of the deaf and its psychiatric, psychological, social and medico-scientific implications — is all the more stressed by the fact that rather than decrease,

the phenomenon of deafness is expected to increase in the next few years, mainly on account of the increased effectiveness of pediatricians in saving the lives of children with tuberculous and bacterial meningitis, with increasing residues of deafness.

Familles d'aujourd'hui (Families today)

Proceedings of a meeting on the family sociology, held in Bruxelles on May 17-19, 1965. Editions de l'Institut de Sociologie - Université Libre de Bruxelles, 1968. Paperback; 16×24 cm. 197 pages; numerous tables. Price: 300 F.B. (approx. US \$ 6.00).

In the recent world, the family has undergone serious modifications, involving its dimensions, its functions, the respective rôles of its members, etc. Once large and mainly rural, the family has rapidly become an elementary unit, based on one single couple and a more and more limited number of children. As a result of an extremely rapid industrial, social and economic development, social assistance, education and economic burdens (once more or less exclusive functions of the family) more and more become a typical function of society. The woman, the child have acquired completely new dimensions, and their personality is more and more underlined.

Increasing social relief, better economic conditions, increasing free time, family individuality, birth control and family planning, divorce: *families today* are different and undergo a period of rapid evolution.

Why and how families are different, and what the trends of their evolution, appear to be the main topics examined in this book of proceedings. All three parts: (1) family evolution; (2) family and population; (3) family, house and urbanization are a mine of information of large interest even to non-specialists.

Pratique de la Démographie (Practical Demography)

By M. Pressat. Dunod - Paris, 1967. Paperback; 18×27 cm. 302 pages; numerous graphs and tables. Price not indicated.