

### Book Reviews

information on children and their adult associates.

In addition to applying the conceptual framework from psychoanalysis to traditional historical research, those of sociology and anthropology are also being used. From these new approaches novel questions arise and much deeper insights into child-adult relationships are being investigated. This can be regarded as an important advance, whereas the possible contribution of psychoanalysis is less acceptable to some. It is, however, less in evidence in these essays and even when purveyed may supply useful information, even though the basic premise is rejected.

On the whole, the picture revealed here is one of unloving handling of children in the past, when abuse of them far exceeded devoted care. The explanations for this appalling response of parent to child are various and several are put forward here, ranging from psychoanalytical romancing to solid commonsense reasoning. Swaddling, the wet nurse, education and other fascinating aspects of the child in the past are dealt with. This book in general is a useful pioneer excursion into a new area of research and can be recommended as such, as long as readers are willing to evaluate cautiously and critically some of the psychological elucidations and suggestions put forward.

LEONARD ZUSNE, *Names in the history of psychology. A biographical sourcebook*, Washington, D.C., Hemisphere, London, John Wiley, 1975, 4to, pp. xvii, 489, illus., £11.30.

The author describes this book as a kind of *Who's who* in psychology, intended primarily for students. There are 526 entries arranged chronologically according to birth dates, and each has minimal biographical data, with summaries of the individual's work and publications. References to further biographical sources are included and there is often a portrait. Although a strict and fair system of rating has been adopted there will inevitably be criticisms of selection and complaints concerning omissions. It is, thus, difficult to defend the inclusion of Brown Séquard, Ramón y Cajal, Claude Bernard, Marshall Hall, John Fulton and many more. And if Fulton is included why not Penfield, even though still alive when this book was being compiled. Perhaps the title should have been, . . . *and allied sciences*.

These persons being outside the author's area, the information concerning them is often faulty: Brown-Séquard was never head of a hospital in London and he did not train Hughlings Jackson; Cajal is not usually thought of as a discoverer of the function of the synapse; Bernard was by no means the founder of experimental medicine. The portrait accompanying the entry for Paracelsus is almost certainly of Paré. Bell and Magendie are said to have rediscovered Erasistratus' distinction of motor and sensory nerves, which is rubbish. References to further literature are inadequate. Many men are claimed as "founders" or "fathers" of subjects, a dangerous and unnecessary technique. The accounts of early works, particularly those in Classical Antiquity are especially faulty, and there are many minor mistakes that alone are trivial, but taken together reduce the value of a book intended for reference; there are also many misspellings. A work of this kind must be impeccably accurate, or the author can be accused of encouraging the transmission of error. It is axiomatic that the discovery of a few inaccuracies implies that more exist.