nurse, the general medical practitioner’s point of view, and the meaning of the humanities in the education of the professional nurse are included in this section.

A third section includes essays on the next 50 years. The last essay is written by a recent graduate of the university program. The three essays in this section are stimulating and thought-provoking in pointing out new directions—social change with new values, changes in the way we live, and more humanistic work with people. “Identity and destiny” appear as guidelines for development in the new era.

The book brings together a variety of opinions and will be a useful reference in any library and for a variety of health professions. Parallel developments and philosophies will be of interest to readers in the United States.

KATHRYN A. ROBESON


About 50 additional pages in this new edition cover newer areas in school health, such as battered children, drug abuse, and more on general emotional needs and problems of pupils. The inclusions will retain the excellent and popular status of this text for teachers, nurses, physicians, administrators, and others concerned with efficient work in the educational systems of the country.

It is primarily a text and reliable guidebook on the (1) physical and emotional health of pupils and on the (2) organizations and goals of school health programs. It is not primarily a “methods book” in health education but builds a solid basis for the content of health instruction. The double column format, extensive reference lists, teaching helps at the end of each of the 21 chapters—as well as the appendix on sample forms, records and health check-lists—all make this book an unusually useful and valuable one to those in education or health work involved with the 50 million Americans of school age.

MILDRED E. DOSTER


This monograph—one of a plethora of drug books by lawyers, bacteriologists, anesthesiologists, psychiatrists, and occasionally drug abuse specialists—is authored by the psychologist-editor of the International Journal of Addictions. For those whose impressions of the drug scene have been formed mainly by politicians and the mass media, this can be a good introduction to some of the key concepts necessary for understanding the many real drug problems. The work correctly emphasizes social and community aspects and the arbitrariness of many definitions of the “drug problem,” but it overemphasizes narcotics addiction and almost ignores massive social and health problems from narcotics and tobacco (though the dangers of alcohol are stressed).

Although logical and factual in many ways, there are a number of important errors, e.g., stating that there were one million addicts in 1900, at a time when there was no definition of addiction let alone a survey or census of addicts; not listing Mexico as a prime source of heroin along with Thailand, Turkey, and so on; claiming that the federal drug abuse control amendments made possession of amphetamines and barbiturates a criminal offense, while in actuality they specifically excluded possession (as did the alcohol prohibition laws) until Johnson, among his other “achievements,” changed them in 1968; and, most importantly, saying that treatment of drug abuse is not very effec-
tive when it really has never been tried except for relatively small numbers in very limited programs, generally harassed by enforcement agencies.

Made less than clear is the fact that the main ingredient of the mind-altering drug effect, whether from alcohol, pot, or speed (assuming moderate dosage), is the personality and mood of the user. The failure of the American system to curtail indiscriminate criminalization is summarized but, like the discussion of drug misuse theories, it is never made explicit. Among the many causes of our multiple drug problems, ranging from alcoholism to heroin addiction, are massive advertising, overavailability, peer pressure, the role model examples set for us, criminogenic and symbolic factors, widespread alienation, and the quest for pleasure. Only an aggressive public health approach can hope to counter the age of chemistry in which we live. Joël Fort


The purpose of this work is to provide pertinent information regarding diagnostic and therapeutic measures which the authors feel would be of value to the medical resident. The information is alphabetically arranged, usually by disease entity, in a convenient pocket format measuring 4½ x 7½ inches. The authors are modest, for the book is unquestionably of use to nursing and paramedical personnel, as well as to physicians. In addition to providing valuable information and references regarding each entity, the Medical Resident’s Manual offers significant insights into how physicians think in a clinical situation. In my opinion it would be quite useful as a supplementary text in training programs for physicians-assistants and nurse-clinicians. A programmed workbook might be designed for use in conjunction with it.

A unique feature of use to hospital nursing personnel, as well as to physicians is the table on Drug Admixtures stating incompatibilities between various intravenous combinations of drugs. The authors credit their modified table to the American Journal of Hospital Pharmacy, 23:8, 1966. A 75-page section on electrocardiography and the vector cardiogram is included. The 10-page section on water and electrolyte metabolism is quite useful and perhaps ought to be somewhat expanded in future editions. A section on the general approach to the patient and the physician-patient relationship might be helpful for some readers.

One shortcoming of the book is that some readers might obtain the impression that the authors adopt only one approach to the problem. They might point out in their preface that such is not the case. In addition, there should be examples in the text where several alternative approaches to the problem could be adopted. It is possible, by reading the section on the treatment of depression, to gain the erroneous impression that E.C.T. is tried prior to drug treatment, and that the monoamine oxidase inhibitors are customarily used before the tri-cyclic drugs. Usually there is a trial on drugs prior to shock. Tri-cyclics are often used first because many psychiatrists are reluctant to try the monoamine oxidase inhibitors because of their potentially serious side effects. A final criticism is in regard to the use of the phentolamine (Regitine) test. The reader is not advised that rare cases of hypotensive crisis have been reported with this procedure. Appropriate precautionary measures should be taken.

In summary, it appears that this book is of value to many members of both the medical and allied health professions. Barry Selmanowitz