but it is recognized that the psychological effect for good is very great. Further, as windows are seldom installed without some sections that open, there is considerable improvement in the natural ventilation."

whereas, in 1950 :

"In most new factories natural lighting has received its proper attention and is good, but there are still cases where this subject seems to have been low on the list for consideration and the windows appear to have been little more than an afterthought. Architects should bear in mind that daylight is the best light in which to work and so design windows and roof lights that the maximum advantage is obtained by the manufacturer, both as regards production and the general conditions of work."

While it is perhaps unfair to place these two paragraphs side by side it serves as a warning to the complacent. It is never possible, either over the country as a whole or in regard to a particular factory, to say, "Since now we have the standards that we have been aiming at we can relax our vigilance and attend to other things." The price of good environmental standards is eternal vigilance and the vigilance of the medical officer in these directions is no less important than his vigilance in regard to toxic hazards.

Much can be done in the architect's office at the drawing board stage to prevent problems, but if the architect is not in very close touch with engineers, doctors, executives, and operatives he may create problems that should never have arisen. Even lighting engineers may produce problems of comfort or create frustration by the very measures they take to provide good lighting. If, for example, the cleaning of windows, lighting fittings, etc. are not considered at the design stage the problem of cleaning may be overlooked and produce a major difficulty or incur a substantial expense.

Colour schemes continue to develop, and both on aesthetic and on functional grounds have much to recommend them. Many examples are quoted in both reports to illustrate the growing interest in this direction.

During the period under review new legislation has been enacted which requires the provision of seats wherever this is practicable. Since 1948 much publicity has been given by the Factory Department to this requirement with the result that much general interest has been aroused. It is heartening to read that managements have been ready to cooperate with one another by the exchange of information. There has been a gradual recognition of the relationship between seating as it affects comfort and as it affects general efficiency. By giving careful thought to the problem of the best method of seating firms have come to look at jobs from the point of view of economy of movement ; and alterations in design of benches, layout, and height or angle of work have resulted in further improvements in efficiency as well as greater comfort.

Here again the doctor can bring his influence to bear on problems that are universal and fundamental and which reinforce the belief that industrial efficiency may often be a by-product of industrial well-being.

It is understandable that much of the work of the Factory Department is concerned with accident prevention. We must not be surprised therefore that nearly half of each report is taken up with this subject. But we are not asked simply to read a series of accident

reports. In each report a selected type of accident (eye injuries, accidents caused by cranes, etc.) is discussed as well as accidents confined to certain industries. Besides giving factual statements as to the number of injuries, classified according to cause given, there is also valuable advice on accident prevention. Here again the doctor cannot stand aside from the problem and regard it as outside his province. Knowledge of the incidence and cause of accidents is essential to their effective prevention.

Finally, it can be said with emphasis that both the text and the tables which make up these two volumes are essential to the doctor who believes that his horizons are wider than his surgery walls, and that he has a part to play not only in preventing sickness but also in fostering the physical, mental, and social well-being of the population.

H. G. MAULE

An Introduction to Psychology. By Gardner Murphy. (Pp. xvii + 583. 30s.) New York : Harper Bros. 1951.

There is something ominous about the word "introduction" in the title of any textbook ; when the subject is psychology, the portent becomes even more alarming than usual. This "ominous" quality, curiously enough, can be related to either of two extreme meanings : "dangerous and misleading over-simplification" or "an expert's euphemism for very solid groundwork stuff". Gardner Murphy, one of the most erudite and distinguished of American psychologists, already the author (among other works) of a popular brief text and a scholarly tome on personality, has this time avoided the grim extremes and given us a genuine and readable introduction to his subject. To quote him, "My desire has been to try my hand at the task . . . of combining a clear and consistent viewpoint with a genuine interest in all sorts of psychological facts." He adopts as his basis the conceptions "that every psychological act is the act of a whole person" and "that each activity of a person can best be introduced not by describing the abstract process (e.g., perception, learning, thinking), but by describing a person carrying out such an activity". In 30 short chapters he covers the traditional topics in this "personalistic" way, first grounding everything firmly in the relevant physiology and then expanding through the cultural and social determinants of behaviour. Professor Murphy does not hesitate to use frequent quotations from writers and poets to illustrate his exposition, and in spite of a few equivocal instances, the net result seems to enhance the general presentation. The 99 diagrams, photographs, and colour reproductions are of good quality, matching the paper, type, and binding. There is a 19-page combined glossary and index, and the suggested readings at the end of each chapter are additional to footnote references to relevant books and journal articles.

This is a textbook for the interested and not-too-sophisticated reader who hopes to become more interested without becoming at the same time more sophisticated. It cannot convince those who have already made up their minds that psychology is a lot of hullabaloo about matters of common sense, but it may

do something to reassure those who had been led to believe that "it's all a matter of sex", or for that matter, of conditioned reflexes. This reviewer has only one major regret—he knows of no comparable introductory text written by a British psychologist.

ALASTAIR HERON

Social Psychology. By W. J. H. Sprott. (Pp. xiv + 208. 20s. net.) London: Methuen & Co. 1952.

In the past textbooks on social psychology, nearly all American, were content to serve up a large but often rather disconnected body of empirical findings. During the last few years social psychologists, becoming dissatisfied with such patchwork efforts, have attempted to produce something more systematic. The result was rather curious: a number of different treatises have appeared, mostly claiming to provide "an integrated body of theory and data". Unfortunately such theories are often organized around different sets of principles, selected according to the authors' personal preferences. For instance, whilst one recent book treats man entirely as a "language-manipulating animal", another barely mentions language. The example is, of course, extreme, yet symptomatic of the deficiency of present-day social psychology. There are too many "facts" and not enough unifying concepts for relating the facts within an agreed theoretical framework.

Professor Sprott therefore had a difficult task, which he accomplished most successfully. Without attempting premature system-building, which can only be achieved by leaving out inconvenient material, he presents the most important theories and empirical findings in a highly condensed but coherent manner, doing justice to a variety of complementary modes of approach.

The book is divided into three parts. The first, dealing with "the study of groups", begins with a useful discussion of notions like "culture", "personality", or "social class". Such words are an endless source of confusion when taken as referring to concrete entities. Students tend to cling to a rigid definition of a term like "social class", and are apt to despair if they happen to come across another inconsistent one. Sprott's philosophical background enables him to give a lucid account of the logical status of such terms. He explains that they are models constructed for definite but limited purposes out of the raw material of specific social situations. Such models approximate social reality in varying degrees, without ever completely encompassing it.

This is followed by two chapters on different types of groups, from such general concepts as "mass society" down to experimental studies of face-to-face groups, on which much research is going on just now. Lewin's field theory and Moreno's sociometry are outlined.

The chapter on leadership is somewhat disappointing, being too much concerned with the classification of different kinds of leaders and leaving out such important work as that of Helen Jennings and Ferenc Merai. The remainder of Part I summarizes studies of public opinion and attitude research.

Part II sets out with a description of social determinants in fields that were once thought to be the exclusive prerogative of general psychology. (Incidentally, it is demonstrated here how tenuous the distinction between "general" and "social" has become.) Among these is the concept of the self, where use is made of the theories of G. H. Mead, widely known in the United States but not easily accessible in this country; perception and memory are dealt with, and one of the best sections covers the controversial issue of intelligence. On this "battlefield" Sprott does not take sides, except for recommending that environmental factors should be explored before we fall back upon "innate endowment".

When it comes to the analysis of personality development in culture and the concept of national character, the author's skill in expounding complex theories becomes most apparent. Social psychologists and cultural anthropologists are today agreed that the first few years of life lay the foundation of the adult personality. There is, however, a certain amount of disagreement as to the exact way in which this happens. Sprott accepts the general approach of Linton and Kardiner, showing how it fits in with economic determinism in the wider sense. He has the courage to acknowledge our debt to Marx.

In view of the immature state of social psychology it was perhaps inevitable that the last part of the book, concerned with applications, should be the weakest. In the section on industry the Hawthorne studies, uncritically reported, loom largest. On the other hand there is some reference to the work of Georges Friedmann, whose work in industrial psychology deserves to be more widely known in this country.

The section on psychological medicine contains an interesting discussion of the vexed question of the criteria of "normality". There is also a brief description of various forms of group therapy.

With a book covering such a vast field one can hardly complain if some of one's own favourites have been left out. Perhaps the only serious omission is that of language and other forms of symbolic behaviour, which are increasingly coming into prominence.

Altogether Professor Sprott has produced an admirably clear survey of the fundamental tenets and data of social psychology. Although each page is closely packed, the style is easy, with a minimum of jargon; and all this has been accomplished in about half the usual length of books on social psychology. With these virtues it would be surprising if it did not become the standard introductory text in this country.

G. JAHODA

Psychology for Nurses. By Bess V. Cunningham. Second edition. (Pp. xi + 382. 26s.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc. 1951.

Unlike many second editions, this is an improvement on the first, published in 1946. Dr. Cunningham, who is Professor of Education in the University of Toledo, Ohio, has apparently not been content to provide the conventional "few lectures in psychology for the