**TEXTBOOK OF OPHTHALMOLOGY—Seventh Edition**—Francis Heed Adler, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Pennsylvania Medical School; Consulting Surgeon, Wills Eye, Philadelphia General, and Children's Hospitals of Philadelphia. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1962. 560 pages, Illustrated with 288 figures and 26 color plates, $9.00.

This is the 7th edition of the book originally written by Sanford Gifford, first published in 1938. It was written primarily as a textbook on ophthalmology for the medical student and general practitioner. The book eliminated all the rare conditions and dealt with the "run-of-the-mill" conditions that would be of interest to the medical student and to the general practitioner.

Upon Gifford's death, Adler took over the revision of the book and has improved it with each new edition. As stated in the preface, Adler has consistently given space only to those features of ophthalmology that are of medical and neurological interest.

The book is divided into 24 chapters. The first few chapters deal with the various methods of examining the eye and its functions. This is followed by chapters on the diseases of the various structures of the eye. The chapters near the end of the book discuss the ocular disorders due to diseases of the central nervous system; the ocular manifestation of general diseases and the therapeutic agents used in ophthalmology.

The final chapter, which is on ocular injuries, is a very convenient, concise account of the first aid treatment of eye injuries.

The most unusual new feature of the book is the first chapter on symptomatology of eye diseases. This is divided into two parts, the first discussing the ocular visual symptoms, the second part dealing with non-visual symptoms. After each symptom, in parentheses, is a reference to some portion of the book. For example, under sudden loss of vision of one eye are listed a number of causes. One of these is central retinal vein obstruction, and at the end of this statement is a page reference to a section of the book dealing with this subject.

The book has become a classic for the medical student and the general practitioner. It is also recommended as a good introduction to the subject of ophthalmology for the first-year resident in ophthalmology. To the practicing ophthalmologist, it is a handy, condensed, concise reference book.

The index is adequate. The format is excellent, the paper is of good quality and the print easily readable. The line drawings, reproduced photographs and color reproductions are outstanding. The binding is good and should withstand a good deal of use.

All in all, it is an excellent book.

FREDERICK C. CORDES, M.D.

* * *

**THE MOLD OF MURDER—A Psychiatric Study of Homicide**—Walter Bromberg, M.D., formerly Director, Psychiatric Clinic, Court of General Sessions, New York, N. Y., and Training Consultant, Department of Mental Hygiene, State of California. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1961. 230 pages, $4.75.

Television's fare, current paper-backs, and the continuing popularity of Edgar Allen Poe attest to man's perennial interest in and fascination with violent crime. In this new book Dr. Bromberg narrows the field of his earlier *Crime and the Mind*, published in 1948, to present an exploration of murder, focusing primarily on the murderer and the society in which he develops. Turning his attention first to the "normal" murderer, the author then discusses among others, the female murderer, the psychopathic murderer, the psychotic killer, the adolescent murderer, the emotionally immature, the role of alcohol, the sexual psychopath. Some medico-legal problems are explored. Throughout, the author emphasizes the dynamic, motivated significance of the murder act to the individual murderer. Murder occurs when "the inhibiting, defensive or sublimating mechanisms of the ego are insufficient to curb direct expression of aggressive impulses." A second main theme of this book is the intimate role of society in the murder phenomenon. The author pointedly reduces the gap between the average man and the murderer. "The criminal acts out those impulses and fantasies which the law-abiding citizen represses and abhors . . . society loves its crime but hates its criminals." There is even a possible analogy here, which the author does not draw, between Szurek and Johnson's adolescent delinquents who are acting out the unconscious wishes of the parents, and the murderer's relation to society. In his discussion on prevention of murder, the author presents an unusual proposal that television be used in a long-term "psychodrama by television" mass educational program. The author has made liberal use of case histories which are interestingly presented. This is not a textbook, but an absorbing, readable, often penetrating exploration of an important problem. The author's presentation tends to develop in his reader a certain attitude and approach to the problem of homicide which breaks down traditional individual and societal mechanisms of isolation and reaction formation. Though quite suitable for the intelligent layman, the book is of especial interest to those who are in more direct contact with the problem of murder: judges, lawyers, probation and parole offices, social workers, etc. A bibliography and index are included.

RONALD S. MINTZ, M.D.

* * *

**PROGRESS IN RADIATION THERAPY—Volume II**—Edited by Franz Buschke, M.D., Professor of Radiology, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco (With 17 contributors). Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1962. 266 pages, $12.50.

Like its predecessor, this small monograph consists of a series of articles dealing with the various phases of clinical radiotherapy and allied topics.

The first two chapters deal with so-called radiation nephritis. The value of these would be enhanced were an attempt made to correlate more clearly the presumed radiation changes with the precise estimated kidney dose (expressed in roentgens, time and area). The author, Luxton, does emphasize "in the diagnosis of radiation nephritis, it is important to know the state of the kidneys before radiotherapy." Since this information is often lacking, many of the statements are post hoc in nature.

There is an excellent chapter on tolerance of cartilage and bone in clinical radiation therapy by R. G. Parker. This clinical therapist notes that in a study of 110 epitheliomata of the skin of the nose, in which two-thirds of the cases had involvement over the tip of the nose or the ala, and who were treated over ten years ago with conventional low voltage x-ray therapy (120 kv), or orthovoltage (200 kv) to doses up to 4600 r skin, in 5 days, there had only been a single instance of cartilage necrosis. This involved the anterior nasal septum, was then associated with persistent tumor and has subsequently been cured by resection. This reviewer agrees that with competent orthovoltage radiotherapy the incidence of cartilage insult in the treatment of most skin cancers is nominal. In this same section, the author points out that "supervoltage" irradiation has not been established as reducing the incidence of bone necrosis.

There is a chapter on periodic fractionation of treatment by Botstein which might be described as more enthusiastic

than informative. Together with a few of the other chapters in this monograph, this one particularly shows the need for adequate controls before making sweeping conclusions as to apparent improvements. Indeed, one hopes all the contributors will read Dr. Buschke's thoughtful comments on page 4 dealing with the evolution of 606, and the fact that its discoverer did not publish the 605 unsuccessful attempts leading to the development of that valuable therapeutic agent.

The recrudescence of interest in attempting conjunction of radiation and surgery is discussed by Bloedorn who emphasizes on page 127 that "these studies are still incomplete and give only fragmentary information." Again, the need for controls is manifest. This reviewer questions the wisdom of the sentence "radiotherapists should be more aggressive in the treatment of advanced cancers which are still localized . . . bladder . . ." Aggressiveness in the face of nonradiocurable disease may leave the unfortunate patient considerably less happy than before. On the other hand this same author must be commended for his observation:

"A common mistake in radiotherapy is to consider that the irradiation ought to be started as soon as the diagnosis of malignancy is made . . . an attitude (often) imposed by the referring physician . . . in the particular group of patients dealt with in this kind of combined therapy, the malignancy is probably older than a year, and a waiting period of two to three weeks, especially if used to improve the general and local condition, will make little difference in the local extension of the tumor or in the production of metastases."

The chapter on chemotherapy by Papac brings up to date the present attitude towards the use of this agency alone or in conjunction with radiation therapy. Concerning 5-fluorouracil, she observes that the responses with this drug have generally been brief, few exceeding even three months in duration. The response rate in cancer of the breast is reported as varying upwards from 10 per cent, and in cancer of the colon from 10 to 15 per cent. The drug has a narrow therapeutic range and in effective doses, regularly produces clinically significant and often serious toxicity. In fact, in the treatment of carcinomas of the gastrointestinal tract, the use of this drug is best considered an investigative rather than a conventional therapeutic modality.

There is a chapter on reirradiation by Kramer which is useful, and one on limitations of histologic diagnosis by Rambo which should be required reading for physicians dealing with carcinoma.

In a brief, 13-page introduction, the editor makes a plea for division of radiological residency training into separate therapeutic and diagnostic pigeonholes, although he believes that "general radiologists are still needed." He produces no scientific evidence to support the belief that localized, curable cancer is better handled by a radiation therapist than by a general radiologist. On the contrary he stresses the importance of sound clinical judgment and individualization of therapy, which certainly is attainable by a good clinician in either of these disciplines. He notes that in Russia a broad plan calls for the training of 2,000 radiotherapists between 1960 and 1965, but one of his chapters (contributed by Lenz after a month in Russia three years ago) contains the not unexpected news that "among 1,348 physicians working in oncology in the Russian Federated Republics, only 30.7 per cent had what would be considered adequate training," a shortcoming adumbrated by Koslova.

Perhaps the only criticism of this interesting monograph should be applied to the second paragraph on page 2 in which well established orthovoltage roentgen therapy is accorded a rather cavalier, carbolic acid spray. The author seems to forget that Meschan and colleagues after 8 years' experience with telecobalt beam therapy recently reported an increasing incidence of serious late complications—late subcutaneous and deeper fibrotic changes which are proving to be disabling to patients. In addition to impairment of function of the affected part, there are instances of serious neurologic damage, osteoradionecrosis, ulceration and stenosis of intestine, fractures of femoral neck, and pelvic fibrosis simulating persistent or recurrent neoplasm. These complications, in competent hands, are fortunately not common. However, they have replaced the skin insults of earlier radiotherapy which were indeed more readily recognized and more easily treated. This reviewer is sure that subsequent volumes will deal with these problems in adequate detail and will stress that small cobalt and cesium units are in fact less effective both physically and clinically than standard 250 kv orthovoltage x-ray therapy apparatus. It is the voltage of the radiologist's brain and not his machine that is important.

L. H. GARLAND, M.D.

* * *

**ESSENTIALS OF PEDIATRIC PSYCHIATRY**—Rubin Meyer, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Morton Levitt, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Assistant Dean; Mordecai L. Falick, M.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry; and Ben O. Rubenstein, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Wayne State University College of Medicine, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Meredith Publishing Company, 34 West 33rd Street, New York 1, N. Y., 1962. 208 pages, $6.00.

The appearance of this book marks one more bridge between the pediatric practitioners seeking for help with psychologic problems and those clinicians whose time is spent mostly dealing with such difficulties. The organization of this book is most intriguing. The authors have taken a very reasonable number of pages to discuss the relation between pediatrics and psychiatry both historically and currently. Secondly, the foreword of this book contains a very clear and yet brief description of psychic development so that the pediatrician or general practitioner reader may understand the complex problems of this maturation. There is a clear treatment of the conscious and unconscious and of the various defense mechanisms that all of us use in order to avoid both our anxieties and those problems which grow out of our anxiety.

It is this comprehensive presentation of modern theory that makes the description of specific clinical situations much more understandable. It becomes possible for the reader to understand how the particular problems of childhood grow out of the abnormalities of psychic development. The authors then go on to discuss both normal and abnormal development and then take up special problems which result as disorders of such development. Special chapters are given to the emotional reactions of trauma and hospitalization, to the brain damaged and mentally defective child, and to certain of the special clinical syndromes such as the psychoses.

Finally a clear discussion of diagnostic measures is included. This is important not only in itself but as pointing the way to an adequate and suitable kind of referral. It is the clarity with which this is done that makes this book, in addition to its good consistent theoretical base, a very valuable one. Many of the textbooks written for pediatricians tend to approach the child in a very piecemeal fashion and discuss different psychiatric disorders as if they were remote entities. This book has succeeded in avoiding this problem, and very properly belongs in the office of the pediatrician or general practitioner dealing with children and their parents.

HENRY H. WORK, M.D.