

## Books

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**Anorexia Nervosa: A Multidimensional Perspective** — Paul E. Garfinkel and David M. Garner. This scholarly survey demonstrates the complex interaction of cause, disease pattern and treatment method. Simple or predictable solutions are not provided for this tragic, frustrating disorder. However, treatment strategies are outlined. Brunner-Mazel, 1982, 379 p., charts & graphs, \$30.

**A Biographical Dictionary of Scientists** — Trevor I. Williams, Ed. Biographies of 1,100 eminent scientists and technologists from early times to the present. Chronological table of anniversaries, listing birth and death dates for each scientist, is included. Wiley, 3rd ed., 1982, 674 p., \$42.95.

**Cobalt and its Alloys** — W. Betteridge. Summarizes basic properties, outlines the occurrence and extraction of the metal and its ores. Deals with applications ranging from alloys in which cobalt forms the major constituent to materials and processes where the element may play a minor but significant role. Wiley, 1982, 159 p., illus., \$49.95.

**Doctors' Dilemmas: Moral Conflict and Medical Care** — Samuel Gorovitz. Explores how ethical and moral problems affect medical treatment. By posing difficult questions, citing case histories and offering insights, the author illustrates how modern medicine can attempt to deal effectively with the philosophical aspects of medicine. Macmillan, 1982, 225 p., \$14.95.

## Letters

### Schizophrenia and kibbutzim

If Allen Mirsky is at a loss to explain the results of a study that showed that children of schizophrenic parents had a greater tendency to mental illness when raised in a kibbutz, by no one in particular, than when raised by their parents (SN: 7/31/82, p. 76), perhaps I can interpret the results for him. It has nothing to do with not being able to hide the fact of the parent's sickness, as he speculates.

Children, especially young children, depend on their parents for their very lives, and they know this. If they are denied this nurture, they become neurotic, or even psychotic, i.e. they cut themselves off from the reality of this threat to their lives. One might expect the children of schizophrenics to be more than usually liable to mental illness for a number of reasons. These might be genetic, or early, even pre-natal influence. While having crazy parents can't be conducive to mental health, it is clear from this study that having no parents at all is even less so. That this wasn't obvious to those who conceived the study, and to those who interpreted it, reveals a shocking insensitivity on their part.

I think the proper comparison would be to a group of children (of schizophrenics) raised by sane and loving foster parents.

*Kem Lawrence Hainebach  
San Francisco, Calif.*

In response to your report of the findings of Rosenthal and Mirsky on the prevention of schizophrenia, I would like to disagree with Mirsky's interpretation of his findings.

To my knowledge there have been no reported successes in reducing the rate of schizophrenia in at-risk children. Now we have a report from Israel that such children raised in a

**Food, Nutrition, & You** — Linda Peavy and Ursula Smith. A simply written book about nutrition directed to the teenager. Tells how carbohydrates, proteins, fats, vitamins and minerals, the essential nutrients in food, supply the body with all it needs for optimum growth and development. Scribner, 1982, 197 p., illus., \$12.95.

**Genetic Alchemy: The Social History of the Recombinant DNA Controversy** — Sheldon Krimsky. Examines the many areas of controversy over the scientific use, development and application of gene-transplantation research. This study looks at how the risks and benefits were conceptualized through time, traces the focus of the controversy and discusses the social and political events that influenced its course. MIT Pr, 1982, 445 p., \$24.95.

**Killer Weather: Stories of Great Disasters** — Howard E. Smith, Jr. Aside from wars the worst disasters are caused by severe weather conditions. Here are the stories of some of these 20th century disasters in the U.S. and people who were affected by them. Dodd, Mead, 1982, 224 p., illus., \$12.95.

**The Monkey Puzzle: Reshaping the Evolutionary Tree** — John Gribbin and Jeremy Cherfas. Traditional theory, based on fossil evidence, maintains that man and ape diverged from their common ancestor some 20 million years ago. This book presents the new arguments that the split occurred less than 5 million years ago because man and his closest relatives, the gorilla and chimpanzee, share 99 percent of their genetic material. Explores the breakthroughs in the field of genetics that have yielded new evidence and methods for studying human development. Explains these techniques and relates them to the picture presented by the fossil record. Pantheon, 1982, 280 p., illus., \$13.95.

Kibbutz became ill at a greater rate than children raised by their schizophrenic parent. Along with a number of other findings this suggests a change in direction for our preventive efforts. So far, all interventions have involved some type of emotional enrichment. Perhaps these at-risk children have an inability to deal with psychologically rich environments. A family with a schizophrenic parent would have few outside social contacts and relationships are less likely to be intense. This may be a protective environment for our at-risk children. H.B.M. Murphy many years ago and the WHO study recently, showed that the course of schizophrenia is more benign in less industrialized societies, environments which require fewer social role changes and are less complex.

Attempts to identify social stresses that contribute to the onset of schizophrenia have been unsuccessful. The most common ages of onset are during the last stages of maturation, when the individual must take on more varied and independent social roles. Perhaps we would have greater success if we looked for such expected maturational steps. I am convinced relapse is often related to such factors. The patient does well in a rehabilitation program, but as graduation approaches or the patient moves to more independent living, a relapse occurs. Many chronic patients in our old-time hospitals functioned better vocationally as patients in the hospital than they could when living independently in the community. Less complex social roles! Some very successful long-term care programs are quite simple, often rigid. Perhaps many of our therapies, pushing chronic patients into multiple social roles, are destructive....

*Hans R. Huessy, M.D.  
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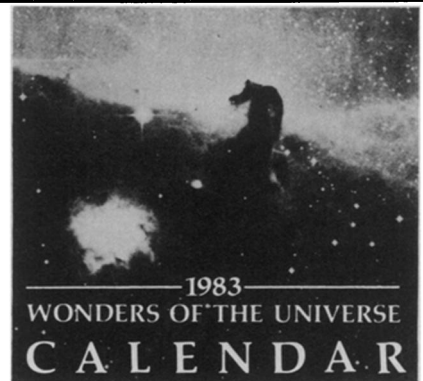
**A Short History of Twentieth-Century Technology, c.1900-c.1950** — Trevor I. Williams. Gives the general reader a broad view of the way in which technology developed in the first half of this century and a glimpse of the social, economic and political factors that influenced it. Oxford U Pr, 1982, 411 p., illus., \$25.

**Staying Found: The Complete Map and Compass Handbook** — June Fleming. Shows hikers, backpackers and other outdoor roamers how to make practical use of orienteering skills in their travels. Random, 1982, 159 p., illus. by Wendy Wallin, paper, \$4.95.

**The Tangled Wing: Biological Constraints on the Human Spirit** — Melvin Konner. A well-written, well-balanced synthesis of human nature that includes the latest research findings. HR&W, 1982, 543 p., \$19.95.

**Tribes of India: The Struggle for Survival** — Christoph van Fürer-Haimendorf. Reports observations among tribal populations spanning the period from 1940 to 1980. More than 40 million Indians are a part of these tribal communities. In the past 40 years these peoples have come under attack by economically more advanced and more powerful ethnic groups who infiltrated into tribal regions in search of land and new economic possibilities. U of Cal Pr, 1982, 342 p., illus., \$29.95.

**Understanding the Space-Time Concepts of Special Relativity** — Arthur Evett. A detailed, self-contained discussion of the basic space-time concepts of special relativity, with emphasis on a variety of specific examples. The mathematical level has been kept as low as possible — a knowledge of elementary algebra is sufficient. Publishers Creative Services (Wiley), 1982, 162 p., illus., \$19.95.



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