phrenics are of special interest, and if confirmed point to a high incidence of prenatal factors, possibly related to the cytochemical and cellular-metabolic abnormalities from time to time reported. Biochemically, it may be significant that the catecholamine dopamine is implicated in Parkinson's disease and that anti-psychotic drugs cause Parkinsonian symptoms and affect the action of catecholamines.

As regards modes of transmission, there is a need to formulate hypotheses in such a way that they are capable of refutation, rather than merely 'fit the facts' (although it may be noted that the recessive theory appears to be refuted by the high risk among patients' offspring, without having been entirely discarded). So far as offspring are concerned, two kinds of psychosis have been tentatively identified in children exposed to a psychotic parent: true micropsychoses, and folie à deux states which recover after separation from the parent (who is usually the mother) and tend to occur when the psychosis is reactive rather than process in type. This distinction, between process and reactive, or evoked, schizophrenia is taken up by several of the authors, and it will be important to develop standard criteria and reliable measuring instruments. Social stress could be one evoking agent, and the apparent increase of schizophrenic illnesses in some immigrant and minority groups is interesting and merits further work. Other lines of enquiry concern the frequency of non-schizophrenic disorders (the 'schizophrenic spectrum') in the relatives of patients, and the precise nature of the environmental differences in discordant pairs of monozygotic twins.

This is a generous, and in places, discursive book which some skilful editing and cross-referencing helps to hold together. There is an extensive reference author index which is very complete up to 1968/69, a carefully compiled subject index, and a useful glossary of both genetic and psychiatric terms. It seems sure to become a landmark in the literature of schizophrenia, and the reader who anticipates rapid progress in understanding the nature of this illness will put it down wiser, if also sadder. Illumination will almost certainly come, eventually, through an accumulation of small shafts of light rather than in a blinding flash.

D. W. K. KAY

Hermaphroditism, Genital Anomalies and Related Endocrine Disorders, 2nd ed. By Howard W. Jones and William Wallace Scott. (Pp. xvi + 564; illustrated. £14.00.) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone; Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins. 1971.

The title of this book indicates its scope clearly if it is understood that the term 'hermaphroditism' is used here in the general sense of intersexual disorder. This important subject is considered thoroughly in all its aspects and is clearly written and clearly illustrated throughout. The accent of the book is on clinical detail, with surgical treatment having a prominent place; cytogenetic, endocrine, and biochemical aspects are none the less dealt with appropriately as well. The only serious omission is that of transvestitism and transsexualism—a surprising

omission when one considers that the authors must have much useful information to share in this field. This apart, the book is thoroughly recommended to clinicians and others interested in the field of intersexual disorders and related endocrine abnormalities.

G. J. DEWHURST

Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology.

Volume 27. *Drugs and Fetal Development.* Edited by Marcus A. Klingberg, Armand Abramovici, and Juan Chemke. (Pp. 599; figures + tables. US \$32.) New York and London: Plenum Publishing. 1972.

This is an expensive account of a rather inappropriately titled symposium. Only four or five papers deal with the effects of long-term drug usage, and this count depends on a generous interpretation of the word 'long'. The remaining contributions cover the classical fields and models of teratology. Many, particularly those from American contributors, have been published in more detail elsewhere. A notable exception is the contribution by R. L. Brent, and there is a valuable article on the incidence of variation and malformations in animals by A. K. Palmer. Although the dangers of speculation on the teratogenic effects of drugs are emphasized by one writer, who reminds us of their value and necessity in clinical medicine, many other authors are more self-indulgent. An article by I. D. G. Richards puts the risks in better perspective.

The volume will be of limited use to workers in the field of teratology who will already be familiar with most of the information to be found within it.

C. L. BERRY

Coefficients of Biological Distance. By T. S. Constandse-Westermann. (Pp. viii + 142; tables. Fl. 25.00.) Oosterhout, The Netherlands: Anthropological Publications; New York: Humanities Press. 1972.

Those who work with biological populations are usually well aware of the various procedures for assessing the degrees of similarity between samples, and recognize that for each method there are particular problems for which it is most relevant; for each there are drawbacks. Dr Constandse-Westermann, of the Institute of Human Biology at Utrecht, has for some time been engaged in teaching these apparently complex methods to students of medicine, biology, and anthropology. The problems of so doing, particularly when the class is non-mathematically trained, are indeed daunting. That is why she wrote this book.

In it she sets out in simple and straightforward language, amply illustrated by worked examples, the various procedures for calculating biological distance coefficients between human populations. She resists the temptations of phylogenetic tree building, discriminant analysis, cluster analysis, principal component analysis, and canonical analysis, so that apart from the setting out of the chosen methods, the text primarily covers their development, backgrounds, possibilities, and defects.