

CHILD DEVELOPMENT; PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL GROWTH THROUGH THE SCHOOL YEARS. By MARIAN E. BRECKENRIDGE AND E. LEE VINCENT. W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia. ix + 592 pp., 37 figs., 1943. (\$3.25).

The amount of information about child development has increased tremendously during the past few years. Consequently a volume of this type "designed for professional students in psychology, teacher training, home economics, medicine, nursing, and social work as well as parents", is a welcome and highly useful addition to the literature of the field.

The organization of the book is excellent. The writing, with occasional exceptions, is lucid; understandable to the intelligent layman as well as to those with professional training. The documentation is extensive and pertinent, and the addition of a bibliography of 806 judiciously selected titles provides adequate opportunity for the reader to examine in more detail special subjects which are of particular interest to him. The work is up-to-date as well as comprehensive—a feature in itself of sufficient importance to warrant its recommendation.

Some errors in fact are apparent. The reviewer's opinions do not coincide in all points with those presented by the authors or some of the cited authorities. To call attention to these errors and opinion differences in a review is unduly to magnify their importance and consequence. To avoid error completely or to fail to attain some opinion difference is an impossible task in a work of this size. The authors exhibit a sound scholarship and a freedom from bias which markedly supersedes their occasional departures into speculative and wishful thinking realms.

Several important contributions of Physical Anthropology to understanding of child growth are discussed. Many suggestions, implicit and explicit, are given which merit the attention of professional workers in physical anthropology and human biology. Certainly the volume is a useful addition to the library of any individual who, either professionally or parentally, is concerned with understanding children. The reviewer recommends it without further qualification.

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AN APPRAISAL OF CONSTITUTIONAL TYPOLOGIES. By WILLIAM ARMAND LESSA. *Am. Anthropol.*, vol. 45, no. 4, Pt. 2, 1943. (No. 62 in the *Memoirs of the American Anthropological Association*).

In this monograph Lessa attempts to point out the many obstacles "which balk the achievement of more convincing success in this newly emergent discipline." He states that workers in the field of human constitution have directed most of their efforts to the study of morphology and that they have tried vainly to show relationships between body build and such imponderables as temperament, personality, intelligence, criminality and the like. He feels that they have failed "to take full recognition of the obscuring factors of the socio-economic environment." One of his conclusions is that the fault lies not so much with the students of