

The bulk of the material in the book, however, is written specifically for it, and Doctor Sadoff ties all of it together quite well with brief but pointed paragraphs introducing each of the four main sections. These are, "The Psychiatrist and the Law," "The Psychiatrist and Criminal Law" (as expected, much the longest section), "The Psychiatrist and Civil Law," and "The Law and the Psychiatrist." This last is an especially well-written and documented pair of Chapters, "Legal Responsibilities of the Psychiatrist" and "Confidentiality and Privilege." My own experiences with many of my colleagues is such that this section might well be the most valuable in the entire book for teaching previously unlearned material to practicing psychiatrists. It also ought to be read by all attorneys who contact psychiatrists and want them to tell them about their patients, whether in conversation, in formal deposition or in a courtroom.

A twenty-two-page glossary is also included. The definitions are original for the most part, and they are well thought-out. They follow the general pattern of attempting to communicate technical material in the clearest possible manner without speaking down to the recipient. All of the terms are psychiatric. There is no glossary of legal terms to help the novice psychiatrist, a grievous omission which seconds the original impression that the work was actually meant for attorneys. Slovenko also feels that attorneys are the prime beneficiaries. In his Foreword, he states, "It is primarily a guide for lawyers about psychiatry, about psychiatrists and how they work. . . . With clarity and detail, Dr. Sadoff introduces the attorney to the functions of the psychiatrist in his arena, as well as within the judicial system. . . ."

I feel that my initial impression as well as Slovenko's comments do not do justice to the book, even considering the slanted glossary. Psychiatry is becoming increasingly involved with the law and its processes, and as practicing forensic psychiatrists we are only too aware that most of our general psychiatric colleagues have little interest and practically no training in this area. Their lack of interest, however, will not "protect" them against the "ravages" of participation in forensic matters. They need this book, and they ought to read it and digest it fully. Those of us already in the pit need it, too. It is not the exhaustive and encyclopedic outline provided by Slovenko, nor is it the kind of reference text provided by Brooks. It is in its brevity and pithiness a stimulating and provocative work, and I am sure that even the most practiced forensic psychiatrist will find much to learn in its 250 pages. At the very least, he will find that it is possible to communicate legitimate and complex forensic psychiatric ideas clearly and meaningfully, and for that Doctor Sadoff ought to be amply rewarded.

MELVIN G. GOLDZBAND, M.D.

VIOLENCE AND VICTIMS. Ed Stefan A. Pasternack. Spectrum Publications, Inc. Pp. xiii plus 215. 1975. \$14.95.

Caveat Emptor! This book is a rip-off.

According to his preface, Doctor Pasternack has compiled this book as an outgrowth of a two-day symposium on violent persons and their victims. The meeting was sponsored by the Department of Psychiatry of Georgetown University, where Doctor Pasternack is an Assistant Professor and the Director of the Psychiatric In-Patient Service at the University Hospital. He states, "There was great enthusiasm among the participants for a volume of the papers presented. I was thus motivated to organize a publication. . . ." The wish of the participants is understandable; a good symposium on this topic ought to provide a ready source of reference. The book, however, prints only four papers specifically attributed to the symposium. The other ten papers are reprints of articles which had previously been published in such esoteric and hard-to-find sources as the *American Journal of Psychiatry* and the *AMA Archives of Psychiatry*. Doctor Pasternack explains, "It seemed valuable to supplement the Symposium material with other important works relating to evaluation and treatment of various types of dangerous persons. . . ."

To be particularly accurate and, perhaps, a little fairer, it should be pointed out that one of the supplementary papers did come from a more unorthodox source. This is a reprint of an article for lay readers written and published by the Rape Crisis Center in Boston. As far as I know, it had not previously been published elsewhere.

In contrast, at least one of the papers actually presented at the symposium appears to be mainly repetition of a famous and well-referenced article written by the author, Doctor Harry Kozol. In the book, the article (and, presumably, Doctor Kozol's address during the symposium) is entitled "The Diagnosis of Dangerousness." It is very much like "The Diagnosis and Treatment of Delinquency," written with Boucher and Garofalo in 1972, an article well-thumbed by most forensic psychiatrists. The other articles attributed as original with the symposium are by Doctors John Lion, Martin Symonds and Arthur H. Green.

Doctor Pasternack contributes a long-winded polemic about the terrible increase in crime and violence in our society, a subject he himself subjects to violence via overkill. He also has written introductory paragraphs to the various sections into which he has divided the book, e.g., "Violent Persons: Treatment Issues," "Evaluation of Dangerous Persons," etc. As a florid writer, I recognize the work of a kindred spirit. The editors to whom he entrusted his manuscripts, however, either were quite careless about elementary syntax ("The dynamics of homicide has been studied by many. . .") or were sabotaged by the typesetter and proofreaders. The best example of this carelessness is on the copyright page, where the name of the *publisher* is marked by a garish typo!

For \$14.95, the reader is legitimately entitled to a book at least well-prepared, and preferably one containing material not readily available for free in the local library's *Index Medicus*. Psychiatrists interested especially in the problems of violence and victims will do far better there, although the Boston Rape Crisis Center paper might possibly be requested by mail.

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Two Mysteries

THE CASE ON CLOUD NINE. By Lucy Freeman. Arbor House. Pp. 177. 1975. Price \$6.95.

The physician-detective has a distinguished tradition in crime fiction, with characters like R. Austin Freeman's Dr. John Thorndyke bearing comparison with the best of the full-time detectives. Even Sherlock Holmes was modeled after a physician, Dr. Joseph Bell of Edinburgh, under whom Conan Doyle had studied medicine. The actual success of physicians in solving murders can be just as spectacular, as attested to in the biographies of the great forensic pathologists.^{1,2,3} The psychiatrist-detective is less familiar, however, no doubt because psychiatrists have less frequently been involved in the kind of routine criminal investigation that provides one with occasional spectacular success. This despite the fact that the first fictional detective, Poe's Dupin, relied heavily on psychological analysis.⁴ The only well-known rival to the forensic pathologists' compendia is Brussel's *Casebook of a Crime Psychiatrist*.⁵ Whereas the successes of the forensic pathologists are attributable to keen observation and replicable scientific techniques, Brussel's successes, though requiring keen observation, rely so heavily on interpretive speculation that one wonders in how many cases he was less lucky.

Lucy Freeman has created a fictional counterpart to Brussel (and a psychiatric counterpart to the other physician-detectives) in her character, Dr. William Ames. Ames is a Central Park South psychoanalyst who occasionally teams up with Lieutenant Lonigan of the N.Y.P.D. to interview murder suspects. Ames claims to gather clues to murder from the unconscious minds of his patients (via dreams and free association), from the suspects he interviews (via their non-verbal communication and subtle points of speech), and from himself (via his recall of details not consciously observed). The method is an interesting one and has provided him with plausible solutions to three murders.

The Case on Cloud Nine is the third Dr. Ames novel, following *The Dream* and *The Psychiatrist Says Murder*. It relies less heavily on psychiatric insight than did the earlier novels, though it is an even stronger polemic for the wonders of psychoanalysis. The novel begins with Dr. Ames accepting a patient who, having been convicted of income tax evasion (Freeman is unclear about the charge and implies that it was state taxes that were unpaid, but no matter), has been offered a choice of sentences by an enlight-