formative. The contributions of this study to methodology are also limited, inasmuch as it was not designed to reveal how the nonmunicipal hospitals can be integrated into a community-wide reporting system and, most of all, because it was not designed to compare the several procedures that could be used for the several possible objectives of a community-wide hospital reporting system. Apparently the main contribution of this study is directed at the administrative problems of New York. In their foreword, the Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of Hospitals write, "the study findings have been of great value to the operations of both departments."

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Introduction to Psychiatry. O. Spurgeon English and Stuart M. Finch. Norton, New York, 1954. viii + 621 pp. $7.

This is the first textbook of psychiatry to be completely oriented along psychoanalytic lines. The subject matter is covered in 592 pages with appended bibliography and index in 9 sections: "Concepts of dynamic psychiatry," "Child psychiatry," "Psychoneurotic disorders," "Personality disorders," "Psychophysiological disorders," "Functional psychotic disorders," "Organic brain disorders," "Mental deficiency," and "Therapy." The text is largely a compilation of lectures given to medical students, and each section is illustrated with well-chosen case material. The authors have attempted to follow the new revision of nomenclature of the American Psychiatric Association. This should be of help to board candidates in preparing for their examination. Psychoanalytic terms are briefly defined and easily memorized.

The theoretical approach is strictly Freudian, in that the authors adhere to the traditional description of libidinal stages of personality development from infancy to maturity. Neglect, however, to define specifically, to enumerate the variety of instincts, and to describe their state of fusion makes for a vague introductory orientation. In this connection, there is a tendency to neglect the importance of hereditary factors and to overemphasize environmental influence, which leads to a psychiatry without biological foundation and may result in a separation from the other branches of medicine. There is a lack of clarity, if not contradiction, in the discussion of the mechanisms of ego defense; for example, sublimation is said to be the only defense mechanism that can be considered well within the limits of normality, yet, of rationalization it is stated, "this mechanism of defense is one of the most common of all and is utilized to a certain degree by almost everyone."

Although the chapter on history taking and examination is extremely detailed, it is written so as to stimulate the medical student to develop and to use his intuitive endowment. The section devoted to child psychiatry neglects the importance today of juvenile crimes. However, it is clear, concise, well illustrated with case material, and devoid of repetition. Handling of the formal psychiatric disorders leaves little to be desired, and the therapeutic approach is eclectic. The manuscript was probably out of the authors' hands before the therapeutic value of the two new drugs chlorpromazine and reserpine was reported. The chapter on mental deficiency, although telescoped, is adequate as an introduction. The final section on therapy is constructively repetitious and includes an informative chapter on mental hygiene.

Despite my critical remarks, the book is a valuable textbook, not only to psychiatrists, but to physicians in other branches of medicine, to medical students, and to persons in related fields such as nursing, social work, psychology, and anthropology.

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Bibliography on Physical Electronics. Prepared by Wayne B. Nottingham and staff. Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusets Institute of Technology, Cambridge, 1954 (distr. by Addison-Wesley, Cambridge Mass.). iv + 428 pp. $8.50.

This publication is literally what the title suggests, a bibliography and no more. Completeness is a necessary attribute of such an offering, and I tested this by using spot checks. References on thermionic and photoelectric emission in the second edition of Dow's *Fundamentals of Engineering Electronics* were used, together with the references on semiconductor literature included in "The new electronics" by K. Lark-Horovitz, a chapter in the book, *The Present State of Physics,* and the *Abstracts of the Literature on Semiconducting and Luminescent Materials and Their Applications* (1953 issue) compiled by Battelle Memorial Institute.

The conclusion is that, while the bibliography is almost but not entirely complete, its 428 pages contain a large share of the references in the field and comprise a worth-while contribution. Many headings and subheadings are listed in the table of contents to assist in searching references. I prefer the format of the Battelle compilation for the brief abstracts that accompany each reference and for the paper-backed ring binding, which seems more appropriate for a book that is destined to become out of date so soon, but this is just a matter of taste.

The Nottingham bibliography and Battelle abstracts both eloquently demonstrate the magnitude of recent activity in the field of electronics.

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Atomic and Nuclear Physics. Robert S. Shankland. Macmillan, New York, 1955. xv + 529 pp. Illus. $7.75.

This book has been prepared from material used in a course for undergraduate physics majors and first-year graduate students. About half of the book is concerned with the topics usually described as "atomic physics"; there is a chapter on the solid state, and the remainder is on nuclear physics. A very wide range of topics is covered, including some rather up-to-date material—for example, on Lamb shift, antiferromagnetism, the transistor, nuclear magnetic resonance, production of elements up to $Z = 100$, nuclear chain reactors, and production and properties of mesons. Numerous subjects are described in historical development, and some of these stories are of the kind that will catch up the student in the excitement that is physics.

On the debit side, there are several features of the book that might leave one unhappy. For one, the treatments of certain basic concepts are wanting in carefulness and thoroughness. The Heisenberg uncertainty principle is discussed only briefly, although Brownian motion receives five pages. The terms ψ and *wave-function* are introduced without discussion, and without any mention of the Schrodinger equation; the term *parity* is used but not defined. Several topics suffer from the book's omission of any discussion of matrix elements or overlap integrals.

A second item concerns the referencing. A very large number of references is given to the original literature, but only in a few instances is the student referred to sources that might help him obtain the background necessary to understand the many sophisticated papers referred to.