

the same degree of ability and understanding in these areas. The chapter on Mental Illness tends to get lost occasionally in technical jargon, however if one is prepared to wade through the technical sections it is most rewarding.

After reading the chapter on "Marriage, Separation and Divorce", the complexity of this problem area cannot help but be appreciated. The authors' efforts to relate the problems associated with "Alcoholism" have been most successful and a clearer document on the subject would be difficult to come by.

Although light on in some areas, the authors have produced an extremely useful book, particularly for those who wish to broaden their knowledge base with respect to problems effecting families, or students who are looking for a good, well balanced introduction to the family crisis area. The specific chapters are also sufficiently detailed to provide useful background for those solely interested in those areas. Family Crisis is a good introductory and background book on personal and familial crisis.

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**ADVENTURE PLAYGROUNDS —  
Jack Lambert, Jonathan Cape, 1974.  
Pp 176. \$2.10.**

'One of the great paradoxes in the art of playing with children is that you know you are doing well, when you are doing nothing'. This is one of the lessons Jack Lambert has learnt and passes on in his invaluable book, 'Adventure Playgrounds'. How difficult it is to understand perhaps when one thinks of other situations, where children are organised all the time and this is felt to be right for them. In this book, the children organise themselves and create exciting worlds of their own out of scrap timber, old car tyres and packing cases.

The author has had 7 years experience in Reading, Parkville, Preston, and Welwyn in the United Kingdom and grows on with each new Adventure Playground. He is refreshingly self critical and has much insight into his own development as a leader. The term seems to be a misnomer as far as his work is concerned.

Time and again in his work he is confronted with plans to improve his playground by putting up formal buildings and he is forced to move on. And yet he is optimistic about the future development of this kind of facility for children. But surely the more complex our societies become, then the less space there is and will be in the plans for untidy, chaotic and strange play areas, which is how adventure playgrounds are bound to be seen, unless people like Jack Lambert can convince those in power of their need for children.

Towards the end of his book there is a discussion on vandals and delinquents with interesting and thought provoking advice. He makes the comment that by concentrating on problems, the leader may find that the problems are all he has left. A leader should he feels concentrate on the creative side of things. Perhaps he oversimplifies these problems. One certainly gets the impression from his book that he can cope very ably but perhaps he is not yet able to pass this essentially personal tool to others.

The chapters by the children themselves are moving and show the tremendous need for this play facility in our adult world. All of us, parents, teachers, social workers, planners can learn a great deal from this book.

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**BOOKS RECEIVED**

- Wenar, C. PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT FROM INFANCY TO ADULTHOOD. Houghton Mifflin Company, 1971, pp454, \$13.10  
Hales-Tookey, A. CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL: THE PARENTS VIEW. Priory Press, London, 1973, pp160, \$7.10  
Ridgway, Roy, AGGRESSION IN YOUTH, Priory Press, London, 1973, pp160, \$3.75  
McGinnies, E. and Ferster, C.B. THE REINFORCEMENT OF SOCIAL BEHAVIOR, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1971, pp469, \$9.10  
Herr, E.L. and Cramer, S.H. VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN THE SCHOOLS: TOWARDS A SYSTEMS APPROACH, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1972, pp356, \$13.10  
Anderson, R.P. THE CHILD WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND GUIDANCE, Guidance Monograph Series, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1970, pp83, \$2.40  
Mitchell, M. THE COUNSELOR AND SEXUALITY, Guidance Monograph Series, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1973, pp83, \$2.70  
Menacker, J. URBAN POOR STUDENTS AND GUIDANCE, Guidance Monograph Series, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1971, pp84, \$2.70  
Karnes, M.B. Zehrbach, R.R. and Jones, G.J. THE CULTURALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENT AND GUIDANCE. Guidance Monograph Series, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1971, pp103, \$2.40  
Drew L.R.H., Moon J.R. and Buchanan F.H. ALCOHOLISM, A HANDBOOK, Heinemann Health Books, 1974, Melbourne, pp189  
Hochschild A.R. THE UNEXPECTED COMMUNITY, Prentice-Hall Inc., 1973, pp193  
Sapir, S.A., Nitzburg A.C. (Eds) CHILDREN WITH LEARNING PROBLEMS, Brunner/Mazel, 1973, pp709  
Cretney, S.M. PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY LAW, Butterworths, 1974, pp382, \$14.90 \$9.80 paper  
Berkowitz, I.H. (Ed) ADOLESCENT'S GROW IN GROUPS, Brunner/Mazel, 1972, pp250, \$10.00  
Shiller J.G. CHILDHOOD ILLNESS, George Allen and Unwin, 1974, pp255, \$10.65  
Some of these titles may be reviewed in later issues.