## 92 Book Reviews

Despite the above shortcomings the book can prove useful to a number of users. One of these are the administrators at senior and top level management in management development institutions and associated decision making and policyformulating organs in both private and public sectors of the economy. For instance, management in public universities and public corporations can learn how to manage their organisations better. Some of these organisations are on the verge of collapse unless swift action is taken. The book is also useful to teachers, and students in management and administration. Finally, the book is also useful to lecturers and general readers interested in the subject of Business Administration or personnel management. One would notice that most university lecturers tend to concentrate more on Western neoclassical theories, some of which are of little value to Africa settings. This title would be able to assist such academicians to relate neoclassical theories as those of Fredrick Taylor, Henry Fayol, Max Weber, Elton Mayo to Africa's management issues and problems.

Reviewed by Mr G S Namusonge, Senior Lecturer and Director, Institute for Human Resources Development, Jomo Kenyatta University College of Agriculture and Technology, Nairobi, Kenya.

Psychotherapy and the Poverty Patient, (1990) E Mark Stern (ed), The Haworth Press, New York, London.

The Editor, Mark Stern, claims that this monograph takes a wide angled look at a mottled contemporary issue which presents both clinical and philosophical challenges to the practitioner. The book is compiled of the views of sixteen therapists from various schools of thought and disciplines based sometimes on their clinical experience and/or philosophy and sometimes on research. Although it is based mainly on the American experience, much of it can be transferred in principle to a third world context and does provoke thought.

The article "Power and Poverty in Psychotherapy by Jorge A Montijo argues that there is no great distinction between psychotherapy with the poor and psychotherapy in general but stresses the importance of substituting the poor/ affluent dichotomy for a dialectical analysis that contemplates the poverty or relative powerlessness of the more affluent therapists, together with the inherent capacity for empowerment and liberation of the dispossessed. He says that when the therapist shares power and faces their own relative powerlessness they promote empathy, community and personal growth.

Kaisa Puhakka distinguishes between the poverty patient who does not have 'things" and the impoverished patient who experiences a sense of not having, not being and not being able to do anything at all. She maintains that the conditions of therapy must provide an opportunity, in concrete, experiential terms for the patients to give in return for the services they receive by requiring, for example, that the patient donate their time and effort in helping others in community service, and that the restorative effect of such involvement can be dramatic.

The dangers of working with any group that the therapist does not respect, feels sorry for or patronises are highlighted by Ronald Fox, whilst Mary S Cerney discusses issues related to payment of reduced fees, free medical treatment and nonmonetary payment.

Karen Simpson Callaway explores the association between victimisation and powerlessness in relation to conceptions of reality that are often held by lower status individuals, which tends to constrict their available life choices.

The universal need for psychotherapy and the delivery of service in a creative but nonsacrificial way is addressed by Emily Simerly, who argues for creativity in the direction of treatment options for the poor rather than charity.

An account of a black, Kenyan male patient in therapy with Hanneke Bot, a white expatriate female, is given it focuses on transference and countertransference, in this case of cross cultural therapy, and how when dealt with successfully it can be of great benefit to client and therapist. Sanford S Fishbein and Richard R Kilburg graphically explore their work as psychotherapists inside a juvenile detention facility, highlighting issues of the context on therapy.

The Editor of the book interviews a Franciscan friar, Brother Bob Lombardo, who works as a pastoral counsellor in a small shelter for homeless men in New York City and who utilises his pastoral vantage point after reviewing economic, intellectual, psychological and spiritual aspects of poverty.

An addition to Maslow s theory of the hierarchy of needs to corporate the concept of self actualisation within every act of life so that the acts of obtaining food, water and reproductive sex, plus shelter should be interposed with the spirit of thankfulness, celebration and unity is proposed by Kris Jeter.

Anne L Wissler explores the experience of inner impoverishment with reference to themes that emerge when patients are seeking new patterns of living that more accurately feed the urgings of inner longings, and she discusses strategies for attuning to and living from the creative unconscious.

Thomas V Sayger and Kevin 0 Heid discuss the issues facing impoverished families in rural communities and the therapists providing services for them. They provide information regarding roadblocks to successful treatment, strengths of impoverished rural families and suggestions for treatment programmes.

Finally, Deane H Shapiro describes one aspect of a control model of psychological health, illustrated by the use of two cases referred for stress related

## disorders.

The articles presented in this book clearly demonstrate how therapeutic approaches are directly organised by the philosophy, experience and attitude of the therapists to poverty.

The therapist's self examination and awareness of their own attitudes and motivation in working either with, or without the poor is clearly of prime importance as this has a direct effect on the usefulness of therapy, both to the therapist and client.

There are enough different points of view in this book to stimulate thought for every therapist and I recommend it to anyone involved in working with people.

Reviewed by C Farrell, Director, Connect (Zimbabwe Institute of Systemic Therapy)

Aid to African Agriculture: Lessons from two Decades of Donor's Experience editor Uma Lele (Published for the World Bank by The John Hopwell University Press, Baltimore and London 1992).

The 627 paged book is a comprehensive account of the state of African agriculture and a good indicator of the need for consensus among donors and governments on ways to proceed in resuming broadly based growth in African agriculture. In the words of Uma Lele, the editor, "over the past three decades, billions of dollars have been transferred from developed countries to Africa. Yet there is a widespread view that much of this aid has done little to stimulate growth, alienate poverty, or create human and institutional capacity. Poor performance in African countries is often blamed on the internal economic policies. But there is increasing recognition that aid is part of the problem".

## **African Agriculture**

Whilst the general picture of African agriculture is gloomy, it is clear that this World Bank publication intends to show that there are some important successes in Africa whose implications on future actions by Africans and donors must be understood. It is important to note that there is a general consensus on certain preconditions which must be fulfilled in order to have mutually satisfying results from the current interaction explored in this volume. For more successes to be scored, fundamental changes must be made in the ways donors and governments operate in Africa, changes that go beyond myriads of specific initiatives. This must be accompanied by a fundamental rethinking of aid and development strategy.

This volume is a result of a 1984 World Bank initiative which resulted in