evaluates them, and relates them. He offers some new interpretations of old information and suggests some new directions for research. Over 500 references are offered, divided into a list of specific references to work cited in the text and a selected bibliography. The rigorous definitions of epidemiological terms that are given will be helpful to readers unfamiliar with their use.

A few weaknesses need brief mention. In Chapter One the Figures depicting meiotic non-disjunction are unclear. They will not be needed by those who understand that process and they will probably only confuse those who do not. In Chapter Five, the recurrence risk to a mother carrying a D/G translocation is stated as 1/3. Recent studies, reported by Hamerton and others, indicate that the actual risk is lower than that, approximately 1/10.

This book will not be of great interest to clinicians dealing only with the practical aspects of mongolism nor to students and house officers attempting to learn about the many facets of mongolism. It will, however, be very useful to researchers who are directing study into the causes of mongolism or of other chromosomal abnormalities. Geneticists will appreciate this collection of much of the data forming the basis for the figures used in predicting the occurrence and recurrence of mongolism.

MARGRETTA R. SEASHORE

TRANSSEXUALISM AND SEX REASSIGNMENT. Edited by Richard Green and John Money. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1969. xxii, 512 pp. $15.00.

It is not generally known that before Christine Jorgensen had her (his) sex reversal operation in Denmark he (she) came to New Haven to see if it was possible to have an ovarian transplant done. In view of the publicity that followed the operation after it was performed, it is perhaps just as well that the surgical effort was made elsewhere. This type of medical effort makes for sensational journalism, and there is an admitted exhibitionist tendency in a number of individuals who have sought sex reversal procedures.

Nonetheless, this is a very real psychiatric problem for a certain group of patients. Dr. Harry Benjamin, who has written the introduction to this book has pioneered in achieving recognition of transsexualism as an entity quite apart from homosexuality. The major portion of "Transsexualism and Sex Reassignment" concerns itself with the experiences of the recently formed Gender Identity Clinic at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. For anyone interested in the problems of transsexual behavior and its treatment, this is certainly the most definitive work that has been published on the subject. The 34 contributors undoubtedly represent a group of the most knowledgeable clinicians and psychiatrists doing research in this area. It does great service in calling attention to the medical profession of a not rare phenomenon—an individual whose somatic sex and psychologic sex are opposite.

The book deals principally with the psychologic aspect of the disorder. Because the psychiatrist and psychologist have found this problem to be
relatively insoluble, they have turned toward the surgeon for surgical reassignment of sex. The technique and early operative results of the first few cases are presented. The anatomical results leave a good deal to be desired—particularly in the conversion of female to male (6 cases)—but surprisingly enough their psychologic adjustment, in spite of functional anatomical difficulties, appears to be better than male to female (29 cases). The understatement of the year is contained on page 373, "Two men committed suicide and their postoperative condition was therefore definitely worse."

As it has only been in the past few years that such operations have been performed in this country, any follow-up evaluation is of necessity incomplete. It is likely that many, if not all, transsexuals imagine that the conversion procedure would result in a relatively normal-appearing functional male or female genitalia. This is far from the case, but a recent visit to Yale by Dr. Milton Edgerton, Chief of Plastic Surgery at Johns Hopkins, indicates that operative techniques are being steadily improved.

Of the reported 3,000 patients who have written to Hopkins applying for sex reversal procedures, the serious question can be raised as to how many would actually benefit from the procedure. Patients seeking sex reassignment operations are almost by definition to some degree unstable and maladjusted. One of Dr. Harry Benjamin's patients who approached this reviewer was a male prostitute living with a woman, who wanted to have a conversion to female so he could live with her as a lesbian. Another patient presented a more practical problem. A male who wears female clothes in the State of Connecticut can be (and was in this case) arrested for impersonation. On arrest the presence of breasts (from estrogen) and a penis gave the police pause as to whether confinement would be in the man's or women's wing of the prison. (He/she got solitary.)

While the subject is a fascinating one, and this authoritative book will undoubtedly contribute to an overall knowledge of sexuality, it would seem well if sex conversion efforts were limited to one or two centers. There is grave question as to how many patients will ever be restored to a normal way of life. Certainly with present surgical techniques there is no way to affect a complete transformation of such patients. The amount of medical, psychiatric, and surgical manpower required to run a Gender Identity Clinic is such that it might be better spent elsewhere. This should be considered for the present a research rather than a service endeavor.

John McLean Morris

Genesis of the Hymenoptera and the Phases of Their Evolution.
By S. I. Malyshev. London, Methuen; distributed by Barnes and Noble, New York, 1969. viii, 319 pp. $10.00.

This book is a compendium of observations from all over the world organized into an interesting story of the evolution and biological relationships of the multiform insects in the order Hymenoptera (the "membrane-winged" insects). The work is a translation of Professor Malyshev's book, which was originally published in Russian in 1966. Professor Malyshev