least 42.7 per cent of cases in my Wiltshire series, and slighter manifestations are to be seen daily in the outside world. It may be noted that in Dr. Read’s series there were only ten cases of pure paranoia.

Some such preliminary survey seems necessary, if we would not misconceive the significance of his interpretations. They are suggestive rather than dogmatic. As suggestions, they are of very high interest. Though at times we may feel tantalized by the lack of proof when it seemed so near, the wonder is not that Dr. Read has not given us more, but that he has been able to give us so much—a contribution to British war psychiatry that is, and is likely to remain, unique.

Sydney J. Cole.


This book is based upon a course of lectures to students. A short historical sketch of the development of psychotherapy from ancient times to the present day is outlined. This is followed by a brief exposition of normal psychology, stress being laid upon the interaction of body and mind. The whole subject matter is treated clearly in an elementary, but not dogmatic, manner.

The greater part of the book is devoted to hypnotism, the methods of inducing hypnosis being fully described and their rationale explained. Other forms of suggestion and ‘persuasion’ are also discussed, and the fact that there is no one method of psychotherapy applicable to all and every case is definitely stated. Yet the author has a very strong leaning towards hypnotism, considering that it leads more surely and quickly to the desired result than do other methods even when the latter are applicable in a given case. In a list of disorders for which hypnotic treatment is recommended one finds ‘compulsive ideas’ (Zwangsvorstellungen) and ‘phobias of every sort’. With regard to the duration of a hypnotic session, he states that this should rarely last less than half an hour; he would incline to a longer session—even following Wetterstrand’s method—but for the strain which it imposes upon the operator and the need for it to be carried out in special institutions. The possibilities of doing harm by hypnosis are dismissed as being practicably impossible with an experienced operator. The last chapter is devoted to an all too brief review of analytical methods and the theories deduced from them, and more especially to the work of Freud. The author agrees with Mittenwey that the best way of gaining an understanding of the subject is to trace historically its development from the ‘Studien über Hysterie’: Havelock Ellis has expressed the same opinion. In his own practice the author has not derived much help from psycho-analysis, and he supports Forel’s protest against the term ‘infantile sexuality’. This last section of the book is not so well balanced as the earlier chapters, and is out of proportion to the whole. It is, however, clearly presented, and is calculated to stimulate
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the student to seek further information on the subject which, after all, cannot adequately be dealt with in a book of this character and purpose.

ALFRED CARVER.


This manual, which originally appeared in 1905 as a translation of the French Manuel de psychiatrie of de Fursac, has established itself as one of the most succinct, readable, and practical works on the subject of mental disorders. Dr. Rosanoff explains that, in view of the special demands of American students, it has been necessary to make many changes and additions; so the name of the author of the original French version does not now appear so prominently. Perhaps the additions to our knowledge justify the increasing embonpoint which begins to characterize this and other text-books of psychiatry; but it does seem a pity that the unfortunate student should have to absorb so much literary adiposity before he can possess himself of the meat of sound doctrine. What he will have to wrestle with in the days to come one trembles to opine. Perchance by then, however, the marrow of the subject may consist in the application of a few well-chosen psycho-analytic formulae, which will serve to elucidate and to dissipate mental disorders in the incipient stage.

Meantime Dr. Rosanoff and his associates have succeeded in compressing a remarkable amount of information into this volume. New chapters, sections, or appendices, dealing with the following subjects have been added: Applications of psychology in psychiatry, psycho-analysis, applications of sociology in psychiatry, extramural psychiatry, psychoneuroses, hyperthyroidism, and so on. In doing this, the original character of the book has not been lost sight of, and the method of presentation of the new matter conforms to that which has already rendered the manual readable and easy to consult. What has greatly added to its bulk are the huge appendices, one on the Stanford revision of the Binet-Simon intelligence scale, and a second giving the Kent-Rosanoff free-association test. These together take up some hundred and fifty pages. Possibly they would be better published separately; and if this had been done the volume that remained would more certainly have approximated to one's conception of a 'manual'.

One interesting and valuable component is the collation of the references. This will prove of inestimable value to the student in enabling him to turn at once to the standard literature of the various subjects which have to be dealt with briefly in a single volume such as this. It may be remarked, however, that in the chapter on dementia praecox no notice is taken of the work of Mott and of John Turner; nor is the question of treatment of this condition by means of nuclein and of nucleinates discussed. Dr. Rosanoff takes a very sombre view of the hysterical personality. He considers that it is in close relation to the criminal, but that there is one
Kursus der Psychotherapie und des Hypnotismus (A Course of Instruction in Psychotherapy and Hypnotism)

Alfred Carver

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