so-called idiopathic epilepsy is nothing like as common as is usually supposed, and that a large percentage are neurotics who evince a great tendency to dissociation and a most marked criminality. "In the epileptic attack the moral consciousness is overpowered by the unconscious criminality." The fit is a substitute for the crime, and results from a feeling of guilt and fear of punishment.

In the third part the general psychology of fear, and diagnosis and treatment, are discussed, with a concluding chapter devoted to prophylaxis. It is to be deplored that such a brief space is given up to the technique of psychotherapy, the more so when we think that so much of the previous material might have been condensed with advantage. There are some errors which evidently are due to faulty translation, besides many spelling mistakes, which should be corrected in further editions. Theoretical considerations concerning the psychopathology of anxiety are little in evidence, and it seems that without much criticism we are asked to accept the stated conclusions. Stekell's confident assertions are somewhat alluring, but those who have knowledge of the subject will be able to note the doubtful points, and those who only require a clinical insight into anxiety states, as met with in general practice, will probably find the dogmatic attitude helpful. No fewer than 139 cases are quoted in illustration, a factor of much value. The volume should constitute a worthy addition to those publications which aim at furthering psychopathological knowledge without entering into abstruse details. Its sphere of usefulness will lie mostly among practitioners and students, though neurologists will find much interesting material. An index would enhance its worth.

C. Stanford Read.


The author claims that this is a guide-book and not a text-book, and is meant for the general reader rather than the technical psychologist. This warning is necessary, for otherwise, in spite of the wealth of analogy and the clear statement, the book is somewhat disappointing. The descriptive psychology is so good that the reader is tempted to wish that the author had dealt in the same way with the more philosophical and physiological aspects of memory. To begin with, memory is discussed and described and distinction is drawn between the after-sensation, after-image and revived image. The relationship of percept and image and the function of the image in relation to meaning are discussed. The differences of individual mental reactions depending on differences of imagery are dealt with, and the importance of such dwelt on. The author then turns to dreams, and fully discusses the Freudian interpretation and the theory of Dr. Rivers that the dream consists in the unmasking of lower levels of experience. A long chapter is devoted to forgetting, dealing first with the problem of repression and discussing the relation of this to attention and to inhibition and facilitation. Rivers' speculations on suppression and fusion are dealt with, and the author gives his own classification of the
ways in which things are forgotten. Firstly, they may be embodied, though they are apparently insignificant, or significant but completely congruous with the personality. Under these circumstances they fail to rise out of the general mass of past experiences. Secondly, they may be exiled or suppressed, and thirdly, they may be superseded in the course of growth from one state of existence to another. An appendix is added containing chapters on synaesthesias, muscular forms, and the respectability of muscular skill. Finally, a brief quotation from Head's work is added which suggests correlation with the physiology of the nervous system.

As a whole, the book is very readable and eminently suitable for the general reader, who will not be led away into unfounded speculations or overburdened with philosophical doctrines which he cannot understand.

R. G. Gordon.


This small volume, addressed purely to the laity, is a simple and non-technical exposition of the psycho-analytical principles involved in narcissism, pointing out how this mental factor may warp our reactions and how through self-knowledge it may be recognized and its evils obviated or cured. In simple language some theory of the various forces shaping character is outlined so that there may be an intelligent grasp of the main thesis of the book. Hence the unconscious mind, repression, determinism, phantasy, identification, and rationalization are severally dealt with. In the second part the practical applications are expounded under the headings of self-analysis, readjustment of objectives, readjustment of thought, and auto-suggestion. We cannot help but feel that auto-suggestion (the scientific validity of which we very much doubt) had better not have been included in this practical advice, though the author, believing in such a conception and regarding it as a beneficial adjunct, has every right to advocate its use. Suggestion and analysis do not, we think, go well together in therapy, and there will always be the tendency for the narcissist to take the easy path and neglect the latter for the former. There is no need here to give any minor criticisms. Considering the prevalence of exaggerated self-love in its various harmful manifestations and the manner in which the writer has handled the subject, we think the book should prove extremely useful to a large section of the public.

C. Stanford Read.


This monograph contains a useful description of all the clinical types of disorder referable to disturbance of the glands with internal secretion, viz., the pituitary, pineal, gonads, adrenals, pancreas, thyroid, parathyroids, and thymus respectively. Chapters are devoted to pluriglandular syndromes.
Remembering and Forgetting

R. G. Gordon

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