and a feeble reaction to adrenalin. Evidently a neuro-vegetative disequilibrium was present, marked by the abruptness of the onset and termination of the attack, by the pain which accompanied it, by the asthmatic crises, and by the biological proofs. Fractional doses, after the method of Tinel, of the drug 'gardenal,' an inhibitor of the vagus, were given with very beneficial results. At present the patient is on the road to recovery.

A. W. Young.


The author directs attention to a group of clinical cases in which somatic and psychical changes are found side by side. The former consist of symptoms distinctly resembling those of hyperthyroid toxicosis, and the latter are those of a toxic psychosis. He illustrates his clinical type by reference more particularly to the psychoses of the puerperium. The general conclusion is, that neuroses of the sympathetic system are not a mere concomitant of the psychosis but stand related to it in the order of cause and effect. He admits that this relationship is probable, but not yet proved.

S. A. K. W.

**Psychopathology.**

**PSYCHOLOGY.**


An association given in the negative form is an association repudiated by the ego. The subject matter is allowed to enter consciousness on condition that it is denied. The repression is taken account of but the matter is not accepted. It is the distinction between an intellectual and an affective process. A negative judgment is the intellectual substitute for repression. Judgment may insist or deny that a thing has a particular property, or it may affirm or dispute that a particular image exists in reality. It may be expressed in the language of oral instinctual impulses thus: 'I should like to eat that,' or 'I should like to spit it out'; that is to say, it is either inside me or outside me. The pleasure-ego tries to introject everything that is good and reject what is bad. The decision made by the function of judgment as to the reality or otherwise of something imagined is the concern of the reality-ego, which develops out of the previous pleasure-ego. What is only imagined or subjective is internal, while what is real is present also externally. Originally the mere existence of an image guarantees its reality; an image is a recalled perception, not always a faithful one. The first and immediate aim of the process of testing reality is not to discover an external object, but to rediscover such an object, to convince oneself that it is still there. This process must investigate the distortion in the reproduction of a perception.
The first pre-condition for the testing of reality is that objects shall have been lost which formerly afforded real satisfaction. Judgment is the intellectual action which puts an end to the procrastination of thinking. Thought is experimental action, a kind of groping forward. An earlier parallel will be found at the sensory end of the ego, where eathetic energy is sent out into the perceptual system in order to sample external stimuli. Judgment has developed from the function of introduction into or expulsion from the ego, which was carried out on the pleasure-principle. The polarity corresponds to two instincts which are assumed to exist: affirmation belonging to Éros, and negation, the derivative of expulsion, belonging to destruction. The achievement of the function of judgment only becomes feasible after the creation of the symbol of negation has endowed thought with a first degree of independence from the results of repression, and also from the sway of the pleasure-principle.

David Matthew.


This paper is a criticism of Freud’s acceptance of the ‘Recapitulation theory’ in mental development. Suttie’s objections are based on some of the following factors. Freud’s theory does not assist our understanding of evolution and does not claim any heuristic validity on that ground. Onto-phylogenetic parallelism is much less pronounced in regard to behaviour than in regard to structure. Because this parallelism is not obvious it fails to form a natural starting point for further enquiries as in the case of organic recapitulation. If the evidence for mental recapitulation is convincing, why is it never adduced? In Totem and Taboo, Freud develops a theory of ‘unconscious tradition’ in order to explain the resemblance between infantile and archaic thought processes. Later, in what the author considers an irritating and casual way, he resorts to biological interpretations. In Beyond the Pleasure Principle, Freud refers to recapitulation as an accepted fact. References to recapitulation are also quoted from the Introductory Lectures and Leonardo da Vinci. Suttie supposes that owing to his hypothesis of ‘unconscious tradition’ and the absence of reference to phylogeny in his earlier works, Freud did not originally found upon the ‘biogenetic law’ but accepted it from others. Freud implies that because evolution has dissociated the genitals from the mouth, anus or limbs, the reactive disposition of sex passes through alimentary, excretory and motor phases. There is thus an instinctive recapitulation which organic recapitulation fails to record and which tells us not only about the behaviour of organic forms but about their structure! Having taken these liberties with biology and scientific measures, Freud fails to develop or apply his theory. It is suggested that there is not the same reason for postulating recapitulation in psychology as in the case of biology. Mental activities are not meaningless, functionless or non-responsive, as for example the transient appearance of gill-clefts is in the ontogeny of man. The psychoanalytical acceptance of the recapitulation theory is a bad psychological method; it suggests an attempt to explain the known in terms
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of the unknown. It is an interest not strictly relevant to psychopathology. The corresponding biological attempt to discover the course of evolution by a study of ontogeny has been totally unsuccessful, and was abandoned by Haeckel.

ROBERT M. RIGGALL.

[250] The θEdipus complex.—WILLIAM MCDOUGALL. Arch. of Neurol. and Psychiat., 1926, xv, 155.

In a critical review of the θEdipus complex McDougall outlines the great changes which have taken place in Professor Freud’s teaching, culminating in the tacit admission that the θEdipus complex has no existence in normal adolescent and adult persons; and in his concluding remarks the author urges that psychoanalysts should follow their leader in this radical change of view, that they should frankly repudiate the doctrine that the θEdipus complex exists in normal adults, and that they should at the same time go further and, recognizing that the evidence for the universality of the θEdipus complex in infancy was its alleged influence in adolescence and in adult life, should be content to assume that it occurs only in those infants who later develop neurotic symptoms that clearly point to it. Such a step would go far toward making possible that reconciliation between psychoanalytic theory and academic psychology which is so much to be desired.

R. M. S.


WHEREAS in man the path of development of the libido is straight forward, the essence of which is mastery of the θEdipus situation, in woman there is in addition a two-fold task, viz., to renounce the masculinity attaching to the clitoris, and the transition from the phallic to the vaginal stage. She has to find a new genital organ. In tracing the development of the libido in woman from the oral stage, the breast is at first regarded by the infant as part of its own body. Weaning leaves traces of a narcissistic wound. Oral gratification results in the discovery of the first love-object. Her mysterious heterosexuality turns the little girl towards her father.

The clitoris relinquishes its libidinal value in favour of the vagina only after a strenuous and not always decisive struggle. In puberty libido flows to the vagina. The vagina in its orgastic activity has some analogy to the penis, and there is an amphimixis of urethral and anal tendencies. Through identification the woman in coitus is at one and the same time mother and child. As the object of maternal libido the partner becomes the child. In man the function of reproduction ends with introjection; in woman coitus is only the first act, which ends with the expulsion of the child. In some animals expulsion of the germplasm actually takes place immediately. In woman this tendency may be behind the sickness of early pregnancy. In some animals the female perishes at the termination of reproduction. Sexual
gratification has released the death instinct. The premonition of death
which precedes parturition is due to the perception of this menace. In
insanity following parturition suicidal and murderous impulses are charac-
teristic. These observations confirm the opinion that in women parturition
constitutes the end of the sexual act. Physical and psychical incorporation
takes place simultaneously. The child becomes part of the mother; it is at
the same time subject and object.

Ambivalent tendencies are present during pregnancy. These have
their roots in the oral phase; they are constituted by retention and expulsion,
and are manifest in the cravings for food, in sickness and eructations. Sadistic
anal tendencies reveal themselves in efforts at expulsion, e.g., pain. Other
anal tendencies arise through the equation 'child' = 'faeces' and give rise to
ideas of disgust, frequently displaced to certain foods. All these sensations
disappear when quickening takes place. Libido given out to the partner
flows back to the subject via the child and reinforces the mother's narcissism
and is incorporated into her ego. The child becomes the incarnation of the
ego ideal (father). Narcissistic libido is displaced to this newly erected
super-ego, which is the acme of perfection. Libido is withdrawn from the
outside world and directed towards the child.

In some women the child attracts large quantities of ego-libido. The
mother's ego is impoverished. This is reflected in her general health and
miserable appearance. When the libido withdrawn from the outside world
is directed towards the child as part of the ego there is a heightening of the
subject's secondary narcissism with concomitant improvement in physical
health and appearance. The struggle between retention and expulsion ends
in victory for the latter and the child is born. The ego ideal is again in the
outside world and embodies the subject's own unattained ideals. Thus the
mother attains from narcissism to full object love. The trauma of birth is
mastered through the act of birth. After birth the woman has a feeling of
loss, only relieved when the object relationship to the child has been estab-
lished. Where delivery takes place under narcosis the phase of emptiness
and disappointment is missed, but there is a peculiar feeling of estrangement
towards the child. This is compensated by the feeling of joy in finding the
child again. In lactation mother and child are again united. The act of
reproduction, begun in oral incorporation, completes the circle by represent-
ing the same situation at the end as at the beginning.

D. M.

[252] Erogenous maturation.—Harry Stack Sullivan. *Psychoanalytic
Review*, 1926, xiii, 1.

Special attention is drawn to the importance, from the point of view of
pleasure source, of nerve end-organs (in the skin, muscle and tendon). Our
knowledge of the order of maturation of these end-organs is deficient, and
further knowledge is necessary. The newborn child is credited with a simple
order of consciousness. From birth an increasing part of waking life is devoted
to the satisfaction of sensory impulses. These are at first derived from the
oral zone, and this part never loses its important influence on the personality.
Thumbsucking is characteristic of this stage. Pleasure from genital manipulation early manifests itself. This is complicated by the micturition mechanism and also by the erectile tissue of the penis. The presence of any erotic component in this early manipulation and erection is denied, but illjudged educational influences may pave the way for the development of the 'urethral character.'

The OEdipus complex is a distortion, not a normal biological development. Child anger and hatred is a primitive reaction against restraint and obstruction. It is naturally stronger against the father than against the sustaining and satisfying mother. We need not assume an adolescent love basis for this childish reaction.

The genital and oral are not the only erotic zones; there is evidence of others, notably vision, coehlear sensations, olfactory, external ear, neck and the area supplied through the conus medularis. About the eighth year further changes take place due to physiological maturation, but knowledge of neuroglandular development is lacking. From a self-centred existence the child is driven by the contractuation component of the sex instinct to seek intimate contact with others. Play is altered, reactions approach the adult, and masturbation is reactivated. The impulse is directed towards other boys. The wealth of contradictory and incoherent symbols already acquired interferes with the development of heterosexual adaptation soon to be required of him. When gonad function is matured to the stage of semen production and ejaculation there comes the necessity for adolescent resymbolization.

David Matthew.


Dissatisfaction with the practical results of higher education has led to much criticism of the curriculum, as well as the development of mental tests to decide who will be likely to benefit by such education. In medicine also advance in scientific methods has not succeeded in turning out a larger number of capable physicians, and there is danger of the majority forsaking country practice for specialization and laboratory work. This fact results in the springing up of spurious cults and sects, which, though scientifically negligible meet a biological need often disregarded by the medical profession.

Physiology, pathology, etc., have to-day reached a truly astonishing degree of perfection, but, though commanding admiration, there is something vital lacking, viz. the understanding of the behaviour of the body as a whole. The practice of medicine depends on a thorough knowledge of life processes as a whole as well as of separate organs, because these together determine human behaviour. Psychology is, therefore, a logical extension of physiology, and the prevalence of nervous and mental disorders calls for further study of psychology. The author suggests that present needs would be met by including psychology in the pre-medical course and extending it later in the course on physiology, which in turn could be correlated with neurology psychopathology and psychiatry.

E. B. G. R.
Psychopathology: PSYCHOLOGY.

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