possibilities of development, and granted them artistic expression, instead of suppressing them with conscious critique. No doubt this explanation is applicable to all productions having not merely technical but artistic merit. Perhaps this is why *Gradiva* differs from a number of modern novels which give the impression that their authors have learnt the rules of the New Psychology and then made characters to fit them.

Freud's analysis is attractively written in an almost conversational style, and the whole book makes pleasant reading. It would serve as an introduction to psycho-analysis, as it describes very clearly, and on the whole convincingly, the influence of repressed erotic trends in the production of dreams, delusions, and oddities of conduct.

H. Devine.

**Treatment by Hypnotism and Suggestion or Psychotherapeutics.**


It may be thought at first sight that a book of this nature is no longer necessary. It is not a compliment to the medical profession that it should be so; but a little thought calls to mind the large amount of prejudice that must still be admitted in the medical profession against psychotherapy in general. This book should therefore still serve a useful purpose in putting clearly before the sceptic the actual results achieved through hypnotism in particular; for he must be the most rigid of sceptics who fails to be convinced by the long list of cures set forth; so long, indeed, is this list that it becomes somewhat tedious, and it seems likely that in spite of the author's warning the impression may be given that hypnotism is a panacea for all ills.

Arguing from Herbert Spencer's theory quoted by the author in Chapter IV, critics might attack the claims made, on the grounds that as a general rule it is the weaker personalities that can be hypnotized; but Dr. Tuckey shows conclusively to what an extent hypnotism can be used in the relief of suffering, and more than justifies its claim to a position in the front rank of those instruments available to the physician for his work of healing.

D. L. Tucker.


Except for an introduction by Freud, dated 1919, these essays present the views of representative psycho-analysts in 1918, and take as their general theme the exposition and defence of psycho-analytical theory as applied to the war neuroses.

Dr. Ferenczi describes the supersession of the organic-mechanistic theory by the psychogenetic conception, but complains that neurologists have made familiar the ideas of psycho-analysis—abreaction, the unconscious, etc.—without using them in the neuroses of peace time.
Dr. Abraham finds a connection between a labile sexuality and the disposition to breakdown; his explanation of the importance of narcissistic fixation, though acceptable to psycho-analytical orthodoxy, is not presented in such a way as to appeal to the sceptic.

Dr. Simmel describes methods of revival of recent memories such as were commonly used in this country, and shows convincingly that the symptomatology is determined by unconscious war affects. He introduces the hypothesis of ‘auto-suggestion’, which is surely unnecessary if he accepts the Freudian view. Experience of our own pensioners confirms his view that the ‘seeking for a pension’ (die Rentengier) is often a pathological manifestation, and not to be superficially explained by the desire for gain.

One is already familiar with the paper by Dr. Ernest Jones, which was read before the Royal Society of Medicine. He gives a brief but closely reasoned account of psycho-analytical theory as applied to the war cases, though, like his continental co-workers, he admits no fundamental difference between these and the neuroses of peace time. He concludes that psycho-analysis need not be undertaken in the majority of cases, but that a training in it is of the utmost value in treatment.

In the light of later experience one might go farther than these writers, and question their free use of the term ‘traumatic neurosis’. The war patients, even those described as suffering from ‘shell-shock’, are gradually drifting into other categories; we see them taking on, for example, the symptoms of definite obsessional neuroses. Freud’s observation that the war neuroses disappeared on the cessation of war conditions is not confirmed over here; discussion of the reason for the discrepancy might prove interesting.

This little collection of essays should interest anyone who has come into touch with the subject; it is important because, although many workers made use of psycho-analytical methods and conceptions in varying degrees, yet the strictly Freudian school had added very little to the discussion of the war material: probably because the psycho-analyst found little novel in what seemed strange and new to other observers.

Millais Culfin.


This volume consists of a number of papers which have been published already in certain of the German neurological and psychological journals, and are part of the output of the “Institute for the Investigation of the Sequelae of Cerebral Injuries” in Frankfort. They form a notable contribution to the study of the difficult borderland between neurology and psychology, and as such merit attentive consideration. A series of cases of head injury in warfare is here presented, and with a minimum of theorizing and speculation there is combined a wealth of clinical, objective description of symptoms, such as is far too rare in these days of easy familiarity with psychological mechanisms and of over-acentuation of unconscious,