

resistances offered by reality. These resistances force the individual continually to try new paths, and thus impel him to change and experiment. The tendency of life processes is to lead to a stability, a relaxation of tension to pleasure, and so to death; but the process of conjugation introduces a new stimulus mass, and so leads to increase of tension, i.e., to life.

Admittedly in this study he leaves many loose ends to be followed in the future; but it is a remarkable development from the narrow and cramped standpoint of the past. Psycho-analytic investigation, if followed out on these lines, which permit of a much more biological interpretation than has ever before been possible to the strict Freudian, is likely to lead to much more general acceptance and a wider range of utility. The author is inclined to over-emphasize his apology for a change of view; but most will agree that this is a sign of grace rather than a reason for censure.

R. G. GORDON.

Suggestion and Common Sense. By R. ALLAN BENNETT, M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. Pp. 105. 1922. Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. 6s. net.

A CYNICAL remark made by the late Dr. Mercier twenty years ago has affected the author to such a degree that he regards psychology as a 'strange doctrine' and has shunned it ever since. This is perhaps not the ideal attitude in which to approach the subject of suggestion, and within these pages there is little which is worthy of perusal. In the first chapter, on "Psychology and Organic Life", a broad and rational viewpoint is taken on the conception of mind. The organism is viewed as an integrated mass of differentiated cells in which special groups have their own psychological possibilities. When, however, suggestion (all suggestion being regarded as self-suggestion) is dealt with, the lines of Baudouin are more or less strictly followed, and we cannot see that 'common sense' dissociated from well-established modern scientific knowledge will aid any psychotherapeutic advance. Psycho-analysis for Dr. Bennett is anathema, so that he thinks that patients requiring such a form of treatment were 'better dead'! The trend of the book is somewhat retrogressive, and it can hardly be considered useful either from the theoretical or practical standpoint.

C. S. R.

Psycho-analysis and the Drama (Nervous and Mental Disease Monograph Series, No. 34). By SMITH ELY JELLIFFE, M.D., and LOUISE BRINK, A.B. Royal 8vo. Pp. v + 162. Paper covers. 1922. New York: Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing Co. \$3.00.

HEREIN nine dramatic plays which have been presented upon the stage in recent years are analytically examined. Such a study vividly illustrates the various unconscious conflicts and solutions to such conflicts which the drama portrays, and renders such human problems clearer. The drama is looked upon as a useful and ready outlet for too severely restrained emotions, and also as allowing a constructive representation of these. Theatre attendance therefore acts as a relief to mental repression, and helps in the recognition of vital factors within. The authors regard stage art

as important to the physician for a clarification of his understanding of mental life, and he should recognize such artistic productions as direct aids to patients whose psychic burdens he would alleviate. These studies have previously appeared in separate form, but their collection in one volume is welcome, and anyone interested in emotional problems will be amply repaid by reading this book.

C. STANFORD READ.

Leonardo da Vinci: A Psychosexual Study of an Infantile Reminiscence. By PROFESSOR SIGMUND FREUD, M.D., LL.D. Translated by A. A. BRILL, Ph.B., M.D., with a Preface by ERNEST JONES, M.D., M.R.C.P. Pp. 130, 4 plates. 1922. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co. Ltd. 12s. 6d. net.

THIS is an English reproduction of the American translation of Professor Freud's study of a childhood reminiscence of Leonardo. The work is already too well known both in the original and in the translation to call now for any detailed criticism. It is sufficient to say that it is a luminous application of the psycho-analytical method to the mental life of a genius long since dead. By showing how the most recent psychological knowledge can be successfully applied to unravel the unconscious influences which shaped the lives of the great ones of the past, it opened the gateway into a field of surpassing interest and fascination. Since the book was first published, other writers have followed this lead of Professor Freud, and we already have psycho-analytical studies of several outstanding personalities of earlier days, though none can compare with *Leonardo da Vinci* either in brilliant utilization of apparently trivial detail or in comprehensive elucidation of character.

A publisher's note informs us that the edition has been reproduced from the American edition by the newly-invented Manul process. It cannot be said that the reproduction shows the process to advantage. On every page of the copy sent us the print is blurred and trying to the eyes. Comparison with a copy of the American edition, with its clear well-cut type, only emphasizes its imperfection. On the other hand, the process enables the book to be marketed here at 12s. 6d., as against the American price of \$5.

D. F.

Practical Psycho-analysis: an Introductory Handbook. By H. SOMERVILLE, B.Sc., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Senior Medical Officer, Whinney House Hospital. Demy 8vo. Pp. x + 142. 1922. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 6s. net.

THE title of this book is essentially a misnomer, for the contents are concerned with psychological analysis as applied to the neuroses of war, though Freudian theories and principles are discussed. It is earnestly to be hoped that no reader will regard himself in any way competent to practise psycho-analysis from its perusal, for the 'hints on how to do a psycho-analysis' (Chapter X) really demonstrate how such a therapeutic method should not be carried out. Psycho-analysis is *not* psychological analysis. This