
Thinking that the study of psychoanalysis in France has been neglected, the author has in this volume addressed himself to French readers, most of whom would-be beginners, but he also aims to interest the expert. The main trend of the work is to advocate a psychotherapeutic method to be founded upon "an unceasing collaboration between auto-suggestion and psychoanalysis." Theoretical considerations of suggestion are discussed, and it is stated that though a negative type of suggestion acting as a repression would be incompatible with analysis, a positive one is regarded as useful in overcoming resistances and as a guide to the patient in more ways than one. Baudouin sees the operation of suggestion in transference in a way with which a psychoanalyst could hardly agree, since he says that "the most important suggestion is the analyst's conviction of the form the transference will take, for involuntarily he suggests this form to the subject." Believing, therefore, that suggestion is so rampant in analysis, it is no wonder he thinks it would "be better to guide this suggestion instead of trying to ignore it." Such conceptions will find no favour with the orthodox analyst school.

Part I. consists of a theoretical exposition, in which the effective way of the association of ideas is interestingly treated. Though much of Freudian work is accepted and appreciated, there is a good deal in which Baudouin differs. The concept of the censor is regarded as valuable, but it is erroneously supposed that the symbol is thought to be due to this mechanism. Freud states that symbolism is an independent factor in dream distortion existing side by side with the censor. The dream is seen as a symbolical realization of an unsatisfied tendency, and therefore is thought of in a prospective light. Part II. is devoted to the presentation of many case histories, in which we see how psychoanalytic knowledge can throw light upon the genesis of psychoneurotic disorders. We are, however, in no way enlightened as to the method of combining suggestion and analysis which the writer so extols. Considering the main thesis of the book, this must be looked upon as a grave defect. The translators in their Preface are somewhat carried away by their fervid admiration of these pages when they advocate the study of this volume for the beginner prior to reading Freud's Introductory Lectures, and likewise when they say that "the student will return with delight to the clarity of what is destined to become known as the Geneva school, and will read the Studics again and again." It is indeed possible that some method in which suggestion and analysis both play a part might be feasible in certain cases in which a more scientific treatment is not possible, but many pitfalls would exist into which a tyro would inevitably drop. The book has much of theoretic interest to psychotherapists, but those who have no previous knowledge of the subject would do well to gain it elsewhere first, so that they may read this volume with a more critical eye.

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