

Psychic Compensation for Eye Inferiority. Plewa, Franz.

A note on Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and the apparent compensation for his defective eyesight in his emphasis, both in verse and art, on the plastic and pictorial.

The "Sexual Trauma." Knopf, Olga.

The case-history of a patient which, in the contributor's opinion apparently, disproves the psycho-analytic view that only forgotten or "repressed" sexual traumata can determine a subsequent neurosis. A childhood sexual trauma that had never been forgotten is here considered to have been maintained in memory, in order to support the patient's mistaken ideal of life, and thus to help her to escape her real life-problem.

The Education of Twins. Lohmeyer, Gerhard.

The intensely competitive nature of the twin relationship is discussed and the difficulties this presents in all matters of education. The urgent necessity for building up independence and maintaining the individual characteristics of each twin is thoroughly discussed and illustrative cases quoted.

An "Individual Psychology" Child Community. Rothwein, Elly.

A short account of a group of children attending a day-centre managed on these lines. The group included pre-school and school-children.

Does the Education Hitherto Provided Secure the Ability of the Rising Generation?

This is a very condensed epitome of researches by a large number of teachers in Vienna. The extent of the research and its well-balanced nature is remarkable, as well as the open-minded attitude towards, and appreciation of, the new "problem" in education—that of the small, or one-child, family. The conclusion is stated that, of all the schools of psychology coming under consideration in an impartial search for the most helpful in educational matters, none dealt so comprehensively and satisfactorily with such problems as did the school of Individual Psychology.

Report of the Individual Psychological Outdoor Clinic of the Psychiatric and Neurological Division of the Vienna General Hospital. Nowotny, Karl.

A brief note of the cases treated at the above hospital, with short statistical tables.
JANE I. SUTTIE.

The Probable Origin of Man's Belief in Sympathetic Magic and Taboo. (Med. Journ. and Record, February, 1931.) Kempf, E. J.

The author points out that man has for centuries practised a form of psychotherapy on himself, which he had found necessary

to relieve the tension of unconscious strivings. This system of sympathetic magic does not influence the environment as primitive man believed, but only the processes of animate nature within the individual, causing increased comfort, coordination and happiness. The cultivation of taboo was developed at the same time to avoid decoordination and anxiety. This sympathetic influence through the medium of conditioned cerebro-spinal and autonomic reflexes, affects (a) the association of ideas and coordination of skilful movements in the inhibition of ideas and decoordination of movements; (b) the genesis of affectivity, formation and neutralization of wishes; and (c) the stimulation or depression of organs which produce the vital energy for the struggle of carrying out the idea and fulfilling the wish.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Influence of Complexity on the Fluctuations of the Illusions of Reversible Perspective. (Amer. Journ. Psychol., October, 1931.)
Donahue, W. T., and Griffiths, C. H.

The authors carried out a series of experiments on six subjects, using figures of varying complexity. They found that complexity *per se* has a tendency to make the rate slower, although the differences in rate had but slight statistical significance. The figures representing the more familiar objects fluctuated more rapidly than those representing the less familiar objects, unless there was unequal familiarity with the two interpretations of a figure. The fluctuation-rate for all figures decreased rapidly during the course of the experiment. Other things being equal, the rate of change is proportional to the definiteness of the ideas involved in the two interpretations, and to the approach to equality in definiteness of the ideas involved in the two interpretations of a single figure.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

3. Psychiatry.

Clinical Findings in "Recovered" Cases of Schizophrenia. (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., November, 1931.) Lewis, N. D. C., and Blanchard, E.

A paper based on the findings of 100 cases discharged as recovered. In 41% there was a family history of definite mental disorder. Only 26% of the cases had made satisfactory previous adjustment, and 73% had spent their youth in stressful families. Sexual adjustments were notably poor. The ability to re-establish interest in the environment is impaired in practically all persons who have suffered from severe schizophrenic symptoms, and many of the patients return to hospital.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

The Deeper Layers of Schizophrenic Psychoses. (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., November, 1931.) Zilboorg, G.

Schizophrenia is but a link in a bio-psychological chain. It is not an irreversible process, and further therapeutic studies may