

### Part III.—Epitome of Current Literature.

#### 1. Psychology and Psycho-Pathology.

*The Emotional Value of Dress.* (*Psyche*, July, 1931.) *Flugel, F. C.*

The child's and the adult's reaction to clothes, fashion changes, and the differences between male and female attire are investigated along psycho-analytical lines.

S. M. COLEMAN.

*Some Points of Disagreement with Freudian Practice and Theory.* (*Psyche*, July, 1931.) *Weber, M.*

The writer holds that the increasing pessimism of Freud's later works is the result of Freud's own emotional bias, is contrary to the facts, and is likely to have an injurious effect on Freudian practice. She criticizes his theory that death instincts are prior in time of origin to life instincts; that hate is older than love; and that the tender emotion is aim-inhibited and secondary to the directly sexual urge. She further protests against certain recent developments which she has found in psycho-analytical technique, more particularly the definite use of suggestion, the way in which symbolism is used and an increasing reliance upon the interpretation of the physician.

S. M. COLEMAN.

*A Framework for Psychology.* (*Psyche*, July, 1931.) *Daly King, C.*

The paper is a brief introduction to "integrative psychology." This system, avoiding introspection and subjective speculation, claims to be based on the objective findings of physiology and neurology. The fundamental hypothesis is that "the behaviour of human beings consists of unit responses, *i.e.*, of readjustments of the whole organism to phasic stimulation, and these may be described as the integrative results flowing from the combination of two sets of forces, those outside the organism originating from environment, and the more powerful, internal forces originating spontaneously within the organism itself." It differs from behaviourism by postulating modifying internal forces. A large section of the paper deals with the objective evidence of consciousness which, under the term "psychonic energy," is believed to exert a modifying effect on the unit responses at the synapses of the higher centres.

S. M. COLEMAN.

*The Mal-adjusted Child.* (*Brit. Journ. Educ. Psychol.*, November, 1931.) *Auden, G. A.*

The author points out the very great importance of psychological difficulties in the early life of the child. Particularly important as

a source of difficulty is the "broken home." In a recent analysis of 200 juvenile delinquents, 101 provided instances of broken homes; this is a much higher proportion than occurs in the history of normal children. These figures do not include many forms of home maladjustments covered by the German expression "Elternkonflikt."

When the acquisitive shortcomings of children under 10 years are considered it is found that they steal mostly articles which minister to the fantasies of childhood. After this age money becomes more desirable because it gives a sense of power and superiority. Flash-lamps and bicycle lamps are favourite articles, as being both useful and saleable.

"Breaking and entering" is simply a manifestation of the gang-spirit, or in other words, the first stirring of those instinctive tendencies towards group action which form the basis of our social life.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

## 2. Psychiatry.

*A Statistical Study of Delusions in the Manic-Depressive Psychoses.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., July, 1931.) Bowman, K. M., and Raymond, A. F.

The delusions found in 1,009 cases of manic-depressive psychosis were studied, with 1,408 cases of schizophrenia and 496 cases of general paresis as controls. The persecutory is the most common type. Marital condition has little to do with the type of delusion. Religion has very little influence. There is a striking correlation between persecutory delusions and auditory hallucinations. There is little correlation between delusions and somatic data. The occurrence of a previous attack appears to have little effect upon delusions.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*A Study of the Behaviour Chart in Cases of Thymergasia.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., July, 1931.) Corson, H. F.

The affective trends found in normal behaviour are present with greater clarity in the thymergasic reactions. "Push" in some degree is wanted for normal behaviour. When "push" exceeds the normal limits in one direction we have hypomanic reactions; when it is more or less in abeyance, we get stupor. Anger, eroticism and over-valuation are closely allied to "push"; sadness may be combined with it. Suicide is correlated most closely with those cases which show the sad trend with fear or "push"—that is, it is less frequent in simple depressive reactions, and more frequent in agitated depressions.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*False Simulations in Medico-Legal Psychiatry.* (Gaz. des Hôp., May 23, 1931.) Fribourg-Blanc, M.

The author states that an erroneous diagnosis of simulation has frequently been made. He mentions that over-simulation may occur, and that an individual who is actually mentally disordered may be aware of this and wilfully exaggerate his disorder. At