

method, although he overlooks here the gravest danger, namely, that of the "laboratory atmosphere." On the whole the criticisms are fair, and ought to be helpful to psychologists.

*La Pythie de Delphes. More, Adelyne.*

This paper is written in French. It gives an account of the traditions of the Delphian Oracle and discourses upon propheto-maniacs in general.

*Individual Psychology and the Bases of Science. Crookshank, F. G.*

In practice, and judging by the results, we are told, the medical systems of native peoples have generally proved adequate to their needs; until, that is, the introduction of civilization, by which term the author means alcohol, syphilis, Christianity, and the sexual customs peculiar to Christian countries. The bulk of the paper is concerned with the discussion of the four great metaphysical antinomies, namely, the problem of mind and matter, the problem of universals, the problem of causality, the problem of predestination and free will. They are all solved in harmony with Adler's individual psychology.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*Psyche, No. 44, April, 1931.*

This number contains the following papers:

*The Function of an International Auxiliary Language. Sapir, Edward.*

*Debabelization: A Reply to Prof. Sapir. Ogden, C. K.*

*The Biological Analysis of Sensation. Hogben, Lancelot.*

The author discusses the reactions of the lower animals to stimuli from the standpoint of the experimental biologist. He compares the field of investigation of the physicist to his own, and deprecates the studies of the psychologist—the introspectionist, as he calls him. His strictures, however, would only apply to the now probably defunct class of anthropomorphically speculating arm-chair psychologists. Behaviourism is the extreme limit of the swing of the pendulum in the opposite direction, whilst the modern experimental psychologist keeps the just balance between the two.

*A Psychologist's Utopia. Money-Kyrle, R.*

"A society may be said to be *secure* when its members are protected from each other, and *free* when their natural desires are not inhibited." Biological facts suggest that aggressiveness in general is an innate response to frustration, especially sexual frustration, and that the peculiar aggressiveness of man is more often due to sexual frustration than it seems. The social discontent, which has always been a danger to society, is a manifestation of the œdipus

complex. It cannot be removed by purely economic means. Everyone has had an œdipus complex, but whereas some individuals remain fixed in it or regress to it, others outgrow it. With reference to this complex the author says, "Probably it can never be quite understood by those who have not been analysed."

*Physics and the Laws of Thought.* Reiser, O. L.

The author contends that if change is the realization of possibility, and if the realm of possibility is the domain of infinity, then anything that exists takes on the appearance of possessing contradictory properties as soon as the thing is defined in terms of any given set of properties. The Law of Excluded Middle or Law of Contradiction (*tertium non datur*), "S (the same S) cannot both be P and not P," does not apply to nature with absolute accuracy, since it is constantly evolving. The laws of logicians apply only to the state of affairs in an ideal and timeless world where things do not evolve. It strikes the lay observer that there are more evolutionary changes in physical hypotheses than are evident in nature.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*The Free-Association Method and the Measurement of Adult Intelligence.* (University of California Publications in Psychology, 1931.) Conrad, H. S., and Harris, D.

The authors have evolved an intelligence test for adults based on the free-association method, and they believe that it compares favourably with other vocabulary and intelligence tests, such as the Stanford Binet, Pintner's, and Snedden's tests. For this method the following among other merits are claimed: Shortness; simplicity of directions; novelty, interest, and acceptability to adult subjects.

WM. McWILLIAM.

*Maze Learning in Rats.* (University of California Publications in Psychology, 1930.)

1. *Degrees of Hunger, Reward and Non-reward, etc.* Tolman, E. C., and Honzik, C. H.
2. *Rôle of Kinesthesia in Maze Learning.* MacFarlane, D. A.

In these two monographs we find the results of advanced "conditioned reflex" experiments in rats. In the first, rewarded rats, as measured both by time and errors, learned the maze most rapidly; further, rats run with food reward at the end of the maze showed, when reward was removed, large increases in both time scores and error scores, which could not be accounted for by chance factors alone.

In the second monograph it is shown that the changes in kinesthesia brought about by the conditions of the experiments had but slight effect on the ability of the animals to traverse the maze without entering any *culs-de-sac*, and that such disturbances as there were rapidly disappeared.

WM. McWILLIAM.