

In fact Freud's concept of *Nachträglichkeit*, translated by Strachey as 'deferred action', is held by Modell to be better construed as – the notion that memory is retranscribed in accordance with later experience.

In this view the therapeutic potential of psychoanalysis is recast from the old saw whereby id is rendered into ego. Instead a transformation of inner reality is seen to take place, in the medium of the psychoanalytic setting through symbolic actualisation. Time is retranscribed in order to overcome the 'tyranny of the past'.

Psychoanalysis is shot through with paradox, not least the tension between the correspondence theory of truth which suggests that objects can be known *as they actually are* and the coherence theory with its emphasis on objects *as they are constructed*. Modell's argument is an eloquent exposition of the problem.

STEPHEN WILSON, *Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Lecturer, University of Oxford*

**Dimensions of Psychoanalysis.** Edited by JOSEPH SANDLER. Madison: International Universities Press. 1990. 263 pp. \$35.00.

Psychiatrists who equate modern psychoanalysis with Freud's contribution alone are invited to a display of some of the harvest fruits of post-Freudian psychoanalysis. The volume mostly consists of the addresses of Visiting Professors of the Freud Memorial Chair at University College London, which celebrated its 25th birthday in 1990. It is introduced by Sandler, the editor and first long-term holder of the chair.

The addresses were to general audiences. However, non-specialists in the field may well wish to start with a lucid summary of Freud's early work by Gillespie, and then turn to Solnit's stimulating address on the significance of memory for attaining mastery and coping, and on preparing for the future with its potential for traumatic experiences. After Solnit, the reader could turn to Shafer's striking attempt to demystify theory and practice, namely by translating the analyst's life-history into 'action' language, and his or her unconscious defences into personal activity.

Those concerned with the scientific status of psychoanalysis will be interested in Bowlby's clear address on "Psychoanalysis as a natural science" and his robust theory of motivation which differs radically from that of Freud, and Pibram's attempts to provide a frame within which psychology, psychiatry and psychoanalysis can conform to the natural sciences.

Short dips into other lectures help to identify the book's challenging range. Green postulates a tertiary process of rationality, which bridges both primary and secondary processes of thought and logic, by a compromise which the analyst has to decipher. Segal reminds us that freedom of thought includes our knowledge of bad as well as good thoughts, a freedom we lose when

external authority makes us afraid to speak, or internal authority (the superego) afraid to think. Klauber exposes the role of truth and illusion in transference and in psychoanalytic cure. He views transference illusion or delusion not simply as false perception, but as the similarity with, and the confusion of, an old relationship with a new. Chassueget-Smirgel skilfully reveals perversion as man's universal temptation to go beyond the narrow limits of his condition, to discredit the power of universal laws and the Father-Creator. Lasch, a professor of history, challenges the Freudian left, and their assumption that the patriarchal family is the source of organised oppression.

Finally, Sandler warns us of the gaps and weaknesses in psychoanalytic (as in all) theories. He persuasively invites those who have not done so, to move from the older mechanistic psychoanalytic structure to a model centred on an internal object-relational structure, an inner-world of self interacting with valued people.

These are valuable contributions to a crucial and steadily evolving discipline and will excite a surge of interest in those wishing to update their knowledge of the past.

BRIAN LAKE, *Honorary Consultant Psychotherapist, St James's University Hospital, Leeds*

**International Perspectives in Schizophrenia – Biological, Social and Epidemiological Findings.** Edited by MALCOLM WELLER. London: Libbey. 1990. 227 pp. \$40.00.

This book has over 50 eminent contributors and provides a comprehensive and up-to-date review of schizophrenia. It is divided into five sections: the biology of schizophrenia, genetics, epidemiology, new directions in pharmacology and social aspects. Recent research findings and current reviews of the literature are provided in many chapters, although some of the summaries would have been of greater help if they had been more comprehensive.

The first section critically examines the time-honoured concept of schizophrenia as a functional disorder and includes contributions on organic 'schizophrenia-like' psychoses, memory in schizophrenia, developmental precursors of the adult disorder and the association between epilepsy and chronic psychosis. The significance of genetic factors in aetiology is reviewed in the second section along with molecular genetic research into schizophrenia and the search for psychophysiological changes (such as eye-tracking dysfunction) as biological markers for the condition.

The epidemiological section considers the interaction of environmental and endogenous factors in schizophrenia, and there is an overview of the Nithsdale schizophrenia surveys and the Friern Hospital studies which looks at the implications for community care