Die Grundlagen der Psychoanalyse [Fundamentals of Psycho-Analysis].

Von Dr. Heinz Hartmann. Leipzig: Georg Thieme, Verlag
1927. Medium 8vo. Pp. 192. Price M. 11.40.

Dr. Hartmann's volume is by one who has himself been for long engaged in psycho-pathology, and has been in a position to put the theory to the test.

The book opens with a critical examination of psycho-analysis as a science, particularly as a mental science, and finds that the method of investigation does not differ in any essentials from other scientific methods. Having overcome the difficulty inherent in unfamiliar data, the establishment of causal relationships can be made where the mind of the critic and investigator are free from preconceived notions.

The whole range of Freudian psychology comes under the author's critical eye, the concepts of the unconscious, symbolism and displacement of affect. The important ego psychology of Freud does not, however, receive the attention it deserves.

On the whole Freudian psychology comes out of the critical survey with credit, but the author admits that, like all other humanistic subjects, psycho-analysis may be deeply influenced by the personality of Freud himself.

This is of interest since all the disciples of Freud adhere closely to the views of the master, and have merely amplified these views. Those who have differed have done so in fundamentals and have seceded entirely from the movement. Freudian psychology digs so deeply into human processes and prejudices that, once affected by it, no one can be the same afterwards. Whether such a moral catharsis is good for scientific workers time alone will show.

E. Miller.

Die Psychischen Heilmethoden [Pyscho-Therapeutic Methods] für Arztliches Studium und Praxis. Edited by K. Birnbaum. Contributors: K. Birnbaum, H. v. Hattingberg, G. R. Heyer, E. Jolowicz, A. Kronfeld, E. Wexberg. Leipzig: Georg Thieme, Verlag 1927. Medium 8vo. Pp. xi + 462. Price M. 21.

In this volume Dr. KARL BIRNBAUM, of Berlin University, has gathered together the opinions of six prominent German psychiatrists upon the outstanding problems of psychopathology. In a long introductory section the editor considers the problems underlying all psycho-therapeutic approaches, and therefore deals fully with the psycho-physical relationships, and the way in which organic and psychical processes in health and disease mutually affect one another.

Dr. Jolowicz reviews the subject of suggestion from Liebault to the Coué-Baudouin school, and discusses the methods of indirect suggestion and so-called "Kuren." This naturally leads him to consider the important topic of the encroachment of suggestion into all forms of treatment.