The Effect of Attitude upon Feeling. (*Amer. Journ. Psychol., October*, 1930.) *Wells, E. F.*

This paper is a *résumé* of "an extensive study of affective experience." It is a great disappointment for those interested in the study of feeling to find that no details whatever are given. We are informed that "a detailed description of the experiments, with complete lists of the stimuli used, may be found in the original thesis, entitled 'An Experimental Study of Affective Experience,' which is deposited in the Library of the Cornell University." Criticism is under these circumstances impossible. The instructions to the observers are not given, so one wonders what is meant by a *critical* affective or a *critical* perceptive attitude. There is also a "common-sense attitude." Now this is exceedingly vague and hardly a scientific term, unless it be regarded as a generic one. The author states: "When feelings are stripped of the naïve common-sense attitude, in which they normally have their being, and are observed under a critical affective attitude they are reduced to modes of tactual experience, to pressure or something very much like pressure. Such pressures may be regarded as the laboratory equivalent of our normal feelings, but experientially they are far removed from the feelings of our everyday life; they are not feelings in the sense that that term is generally understood. Rather they are laboratory artefacts, products of a specific unnatural observational attitude, yet none the less psychologically genuine." What it all amounts to is probably this—that the feelings pleasure-unpleasure were destroyed by the attitudes adopted, for the somatic and visceral experiences of which the author speaks are certainly not feelings. One wonders whether he had sufficiently acquainted himself with work previously done in this field. Nothing useful can be learned from this succinct summary.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

The Measurement of Tonus by Deformation of the Tendon. (*Amer. Journ. Psychol., October*, 1930.) *Freeman, G. L.*

This paper describes a new method for measuring the tonus of the quadriceps by the deformation by pressure of the patellar tendon.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Whole and Part Methods with Unrelated Reactions. (*Amer. Journ. Psychol., October*, 1930.) *Crafts, L. W.*

In previous work on the "whole" and the "parts" methods it had been found that the "whole method" showed some advantages, which have been ascribed to the fact that in that method a meaning of the whole was obtained which was not the case with the "parts method." In these experiments the author investigated the efficiency of these methods in massed and spaced practice with material which was serially and spatially unrelated. There were 281 subjects. They were given experimental sheets on which there was a code or key of twelve letters, to each of which a different number was