

her question box in the principal's office contained more requests for suggestions with regard to specific children than it was possible to compass. Of the forty-six children who came under observation, thirty-five were reported as having difficulty in keeping up with their grade in one or more subjects. Binet-Simon tests showed sixteen of these to have a mental retardation of from three to six years; and the academic troubles of the other nineteen were associated with, if not the disguised expression of, such faulty psycho-biological reactions as shyness, laziness, inattention, vicious tendencies, sensitiveness to criticism, day-dreaming, hypochondriacal fears with resulting irregular attendance. The eleven remaining from the total forty-six were referred for the more overt adaptive difficulties of tantrums, sullenness, crying spells, twitching, indifference, excitability, poor coordination with the hands, quarrelsomeness, etc.

In fourteen pages of tables Dr. Richards presents notes of all the forty-six cases. These notes provide not only school information, but valuable details of home life and out-of-school habits. The last two columns give her suggested modifications, and notes on the subsequent course. In fourteen of the cases she does not appear to have ventured any suggestions. In only two instances do her suggestions contain anything recognisable as medical advice, one being a case in which she suggested a Wassermann test, and the other a case in which she prescribed bromides and Fowler's solution. In the remaining cases her suggestions—eminently sensible, as far as we can judge—are such as could have been made, and indeed not uncommonly are made, by experienced school teachers who yet know nothing of psycho-pathology as it presents itself to the medical mind. Similarly, the case-notes contain none of the psycho-pathologist's jargon, and, except as regards the Binet-Simon tests, do not indicate the employment of any special technique. Did Dr. Richards, then, leave her psycho-pathology in the umbrella-stand in the hall? At any rate, she seems to have exercised a good deal of instinctive wisdom; and her paper, with its plain statements of fact and its impartial presentation of the whole of the case material, deserves minute study.

SYDNEY J. COLE.

---

*The British Journal of Psychology. Monograph Supplement VI—Pleasure—Unpleasure: An Experimental Investigation on the Feeling-elements.* By A. WOHLGEMUTH, D.Sc.Lond. Cambridge University Press. Royal 8vo. Pp. 252. Price 14s.

This monograph opens with an interesting *résumé* of the opinions of various authors on the subject of "feeling," in which the lack of uniformity in connection with the whole matter is apparent. The author states the various differences of opinion requiring settlement, and ends his introduction by giving his reasons for his preference for the introspection method in experimental work. The second part, which is experimental, gives exact details of the nature of his laboratory work. Four trained observers offered their services, and in Part III, headed "*Protocols*," each experiment is given in full. This part occupies 140 pages, and the records are there for others to form their conclusions. Part IV gives the results of the experiments, and in Part V these results

are summarised. The conclusions reached are embodied in 77 rules, and it is obviously impossible to deal with these in the present instance in any adequate manner. It is of interest to note that the author states that there are only two qualities of feeling-elements, *viz.*, pleasure and unpleasure, that unlike feeling-elements may co-exist in consciousness, and that opposite feeling-elements may fuse, sometimes tending to mutual neutralisation and sometimes without any neutralisation, producing in the latter case a "mixed feeling." To those interested in psychology this work will prove a veritable gold-mine so far as results can be obtained from introspection, and the author is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has summarised the mass of evidence obtained from his painstaking and careful experimental work. He expresses the hope that similar research may be conducted in pathological cases, and with this we cordially agree. R. H. STEEN.

*Psychothérapie.* By Dr. ANDRÉ-THOMAS. Paris: Baillière & Fils, 1912. 8vo. Pp. 519. 12 frs.

This is one of twenty-eight volumes which constitute the Therapeutic Library, edited by Profs. A. Gilbert and P. Carnot. After a short preface by Prof. Dejerine and an introduction comes Part I, wherein the different methods used in psycho-therapy are described. In the first chapter of this part a complete account is given of suggestion in the waking state, hypnotism and auto-suggestion. The psycho-analysis of Freud is mentioned under the heading of "methods derived from hypnotism and suggestion"—a position which will be strongly resented by most psycho-analysts. Only four pages are allotted to this subject as compared with forty devoted to suggestion. Chapter II deals with persuasion in its rational, sentimental, religious and philosophic aspects. The next chapter discusses treatment by isolation.

The second part is devoted to the maladies in which psycho-therapy may be employed and the most useful methods in each case. It includes in a first section hysteria and neurasthenia and in a second section "mental" maladies, which would seem to imply that the author does not consider hysteria a mental disorder. In the third section the treatment of organic diseases of the nervous system is dealt with.

The book is closely printed and contains an immense amount of information on the subject—in fact it is more of an encyclopædia than a text-book. It were easy to criticise certain pages adversely—for example, the chapter on the treatment of obsessions, which adds little to our knowledge of the subject; and there are other parts in which the opinions expressed seem a trifle out of date. But it must be remembered that this publication first saw the light in 1912. At this time general medical opinion regarding psycho-therapy was less tolerant in its attitude than is the case to-day and in reality the writer was well in advance of his time.

Taking the volume as a whole our congratulations are due to Dr. André-Thomas for so successfully fulfilling his task, and for his industry in collecting so large a body of knowledge and presenting it in so easily accessible a form. We can only hope that a second edition will soon be called for, when the experience gained in the war can be embodied in the text.