

by W. Sluckin; "Sleep and Dreams", by R. Wilkinson "Drugs and Personality", by C. R. B. Joyce; "Backwardness and Severe Subnormality", by N. O'Connor; "Personality Theories and Behaviour Therapy", by H. R. Beech; "A New Theory of Personality", by D. Bannister; "Small Groups", by M. L. J. Abercrombie; "Cross-Cultural Studies", by D. Price-Williams. In addition, the book is a valuable source of reference for all who are interested in psychological research in general.

Despite the above reservations, it is a pleasure to have so much information in such a slender book at so little cost.

V. MEYER.

**Theories of Personality: Primary Sources and Research.** By GARDNER LINDZEY and CALVIN S. HALL. New York, London, Sydney: John Wiley. 1965. Pp. 543. Price 53s.

This book contains "a carefully edited selection of primary source material and pertinent empirical research designed to be used with the editors' well-known text of the same name . . . the papers set forth a theorist's views on one or more central issues, or they are methodological in substance, illustrating empirical research centering on a theory . . . each section of readings is preceded by an illuminating introduction written by the editors." This quotation from the blurb is a very fair summary of the contents of this book, which will undoubtedly be widely welcomed by students of psychology. The text to which it is a supplement has become a classic and these readings supplement it very well, and in some cases bring it up to date. The areas covered range from Freud, Jung and other "dynamic" writers through Murray, Lewin, Allport and "organismic" theorists, to the more physiological, behaviourist and factor analytic writers. In each case the treatment is somewhat uncritical and an attempt is made to bring out the most positive aspects of each theory. Within those limits the authors have succeeded admirably and the book can be confidently recommended.

H. J. EYSENCK.

**Reifung und Formung von Persönlichkeiten** (Maturation and formulation of personalities). By MORITZ TRAMER. Zürich and Stuttgart: Eugen Rentsch Verlag. 1965. Pp. 400. Price not stated.

The author, who died soon after the completion of this work, was a distinguished Swiss psychiatrist,

best known for his contributions to child psychiatry. He took a special interest in autobiographies of outstanding personalities. In this volume he presented a systematic study of such writings by eleven well-known subjects, including Benjamin Franklin, Hans Christian Andersen, Henry Stanley, T. E. Lawrence and Anne Frank. The autobiographies had been chosen for their suitability for this study. The author looked for the following factors; marked individual crisis and delays or acceleration of development in puberty; physical or mental stresses; important chance events; psychopathological states; manifestations of creativity; human relations; the total picture of the personality; results of those factors on achievement. They were presented in graphs.

The author found certain types of development which he regarded as a possible basis for a differential typology of mental maturation. The factors listed above were measured with the help of a rating scale and their inter-relationship was analysed. Two main categories were tentatively distinguished according to the dynamics of maturation, i.e. the religious and the creative, and several subtypes of each. The author refrained from generalizations, but thought his work to be of value for a general typology.

The limitations of studies such as this are obvious. The subjects are highly atypical and the records are not equally informative. However, the author has made the best of the available material, and the autobiographies, together with what was known about his subjects from other sources, give comprehensive pictures of remarkable personality developments. The author's approach was that of a painstaking clinical psychiatrist with special knowledge of childhood and adolescence.

E. STENGEL.

**Learning Through Group Experience.** By A. K. C. OTTOWAY. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. Pp. 168. Price 25s.

This book has a great deal to offer psychiatrists who teach. It is concerned with what the author calls non-directive training groups. This type of group differs from the therapeutic group more familiar to psychiatrists, in which the personal problems of neurotic patients are the focus of attention. In the non-directive training group a dozen or so persons, e.g. social workers, prison officers or teachers who are doing a course in one of the Social Sciences meet weekly for free discussion. Topics are raised by the group members: they may be theoretical, religious, personal, or related to their work, and there is no initial direction from the group leader. As the group