

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

continues to meet, the participants tend to become emotionally involved, and this gives the group further impetus. At a later stage, personal problems may be brought for discussion; they are always treated as common problems of normal people.

The leader, while remaining as passive as possible, has a guiding role. Thus, he may introduce theory where he thinks it is relevant, show the group why they seem to have reached an impasse, protect individuals from verbal attack if necessary, and interpret what he feels is happening in the group, including their attitude to him. Interpretation, however, is at a reality level rather than in terms of unconscious mechanisms—although these may be introduced in simple terms. The ultimate aim is to help the participants to understand both their own behaviour and that of others and thus to help them carry out their work more effectively. The book consists mainly of reports of the meetings of two of these groups compiled from the author's notes and those of his students. The theory of group interaction is discussed concisely and clearly. In this, psychiatrists have much to learn from educationists.

Although the book is of compelling interest in its own right, psychiatrists with students to teach may feel the method has relevance for them. Basic factual knowledge of psychiatry must, of course, be established using orthodox techniques. Assuming this, however, the problems of the psychiatrist in training, or the undergraduate doing his psychiatric "firm", are often related to the fears and anxieties aroused in them by close contact with patients. In many training centres there is little or no opportunity for students to discuss and understand their feelings and so to improve their management of patients. Psychiatry is unique in that the doctor-patient relationship is an important part of any treatment, whether this is psychotherapy, behaviour therapy or physical treatment. This book suggests that further experiments with the non-directive training group would be valuable.

SIDNEY CROWN.

Attraction and Hostility. An experimental analysis of Interpersonal and Self Evaluation. By ALBERT PEPITONE. London: Tavistock Publications. 1966. Pp. 238. Price 30s.

Albert Pepitone is Professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. His main interest at present seems to be in social psychology, in which he has been concerned in a number of experimental investigations. This is his first book; an account of experimental studies of hostility and attraction

through an underlying common denominator termed cognitive validation. His aim is to examine a more precisely delimited area in a field of social psychology which possibly suffers from over-generalizations.

A series of psychological test situations are described which follow a logical sequence, in that successive experiments arise from information found to be lacking or uncontrolled in those preceding. The experiments are designed to test the subjects' reactions and evaluations to such things as boastfulness, legitimate conceit and invalid self-depreciation.

Part I consists of a theoretical discussion that is likely to be rather heavy going for those, including this reviewer, who are not familiar with current concepts and hypotheses in this field. Cognitive consistency theories such as the Balance model and the Dissonance model require a good deal of pondering at first reading.

The main part of the book consists of a detailed description of the tests and their results. The experiments are ingenious and sometimes involve at least the initial deceiving of the subjects taking part as to the intention of the experiment. The one designed to elucidate the projection of unfavourable characteristics is interesting.

The general trend of the results suggests that many forms of attraction and hostility can be interpreted in part as the attempts of the individual to validate his evaluations of himself and other persons. The author concludes modestly that he has taken a small step in investigating some of the dynamics that underlie attraction and hostility. He suggests that future research should aim at more detailed and more refined experimental analyses of the interreaction between validation pressures on the one hand and self-esteem, social status and security motives on the other.

This book will possibly be of more interest to the psychologist than to the clinical psychiatrist. It seems to be a well-planned and executed work in its field, and a contribution to the literature of experimental social psychology.

H. M. FLANAGAN.

Désafférentation Expérimentale et Clinique. Edited by Professor J. DE AJURIAGUERRA. (Symposium Bel-Air, Genève, September, 1964). Geneva: University Library, Georg & Cie.

This nicely-presented volume of 342 pages includes the various papers and the main aspects of the discussions at a meeting in September 1964 in Geneva. It consists of three main portions: the first one is devoted to experimental work and covers some 75