

becomes needed in the schizophrenic psychoses (to which Alexander confines his considerations) for the same reason. The majority of psychiatrists probably would have the opinion that this form of psychotic reaction is detrimentally influenced by psycho-analysis, which may even act as a precipitating factor. There are others, however, who are much more hopeful, and some even claim successes. The manic-depressive type has always been regarded more optimistically. It is complained, and rightly so, that it is not possible to form a definite opinion on the possibilities of psycho-analytic treatment in the psychotic realm when there are no reports giving an exact description of the technique used. The conclusion here is that the simple and uncritical use of a treatment designed for the psychoneuroses is inappropriate. Since the psychotic ego is weak in repression and must therefore deny and project, the problem is not to resolve repressions, but to strengthen the relation to external reality. The persistent nurturing of a positive transference must be the main foundation of treatment. Through this the therapist can increase the patient's acceptance of external reality.

The therapeutic methods of H. S. Sullivan and the observations of H. Nunberg and K. Landauer are quoted concerning the re-establishment of the patient's relations to the external world, being based on an identification with the individuals with whom he has constant contact. Attendants with schizoid personalities have been employed to deal with schizoid patients. This arrangement has been most helpful.

A later chapter deals interestingly with psychogenic factors in organic disease, and with the psychological influence on the body as a whole. In conclusion, psycho-analysis in medical education is discussed and briefly formulated.

Altogether it is a book which amply fulfills its purpose of showing the necessity of a closer relationship between the psycho-analyst and the physician. It is extremely readable and easy to follow, while the arguments are logical and singularly free from bias. These pages certainly should succeed in "convincing the medical profession that the present state of affairs, in which a fundamental, practical and theoretical contribution to medicine is excluded from the medical schools, is unjustified and undesirable." If they do, the author will not have laboured in vain, and medicine will be so much the richer.

C. STANFORD READ.

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*Hypnotism, Suggestion and Faith-healing.* By ALEXANDER CANNON, M.D. London: William Heinemann (Medical Books), Ltd., 1932. Pp. xiv + 43. Price 2s. 6d. net.

*An A B C of Medical Hypnotism.* By EDWIN HOPEWELL ASH, M.D. Published privately: BM/ELHA, London, W.C. 1. Foolscap 8vo. Pp. 56. Price 2s.

It is certainly a fact that with the advent of analytical therapy in the treatment of neurotic disorders there has been a tendency to underestimate the importance of simple suggestion and hypnosis.

The well-equipped psychotherapist will, however, not be a blind adherent to any one particular method, but will vary his *modus operandi* according to the special factors each individual case may present. The authors of these small volumes would have us believe that hypnotism has a far wider sphere of influence in medicine than can possibly be substantiated scientifically. Dr. Cannon, who says that hypnotism is forgotten, regards it as "the master key to the mind of man," and states that "in time we should learn to disperse the delusions of the insane which are one of the foundations of mental disorder." Such surprising remarks in the preface prepare us to some extent for the extravagant and almost fantastic contents frequently met with later. Though we greatly disagree with most of the writer's conclusions, we can certainly concur in the note made that "a suggestive hypnotic therapeusis cannot be established as a means of cure in most mental cases."

Dr. Ash also seems to think that a sufficient knowledge of hypnotism can be gleaned from a study of the few pages in his brochure. He, too, makes claims that are more than questionable. Hypnotism, he says, is an agent that "opens the door to a more abundant and health-bringing spiritual experience"—whatever that may mean—and paralysis agitans and manic-depressive states are amongst the maladies for which medical hypnosis may often be found especially applicable. We cannot for a moment accept the view that any medical man is in a position to employ hypnosis in his practice after reading a small primer on the subject. These two publications, however, cannot be recommended. The first one is not only badly compiled, but contains much that is misleading and scientifically indefensible. The other, in our opinion, fulfils no useful purpose.

C. STANFORD READ.

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*Paralysie Générale et Malariathérapie.* Par R. LEROY et G. MÉDAKOVITCH. Paris: G. Doin et Cie, 1930. Medium 8vo. Price 80 fcs.

There has not appeared such a comprehensive treatise on this subject since Gerstmann's Monograph in 1925 on the work done at the Vienna Clinic under the direction of Prof. Wagner-Jauregg.

In addition to a record of the authors' experience, one hundred pages are devoted to the results of other workers in different parts of the world. It is interesting to note that the percentage of remissions recorded remains fairly constant. From a prognostic point of view the clinical type of G.P.I. should be taken into account. The authors report the maniacal and grandiose forms as responding better to treatment than other types. They regard the simple dementing type as favourable also, although in the reviewer's experience this type responds poorly.

A strong plea is made for early treatment, and mention is made of the better results obtained in neurological clinics, where diagnosis is established and treatment carried out earlier than occurs with those cases who have to be sent to mental hospitals. There is