

that had previously been repressed, and licence, therefore, to activities that had been inhibited. We can, in fact, accompany the analyst in her exploration of the unconscious mind.

There are criticisms also to be made. The form of the book makes special difficulties for the reader. In most cases a paper previously published in the *International Journal of Psycho-analysis* is the nucleus around which a chapter is written. On this account material is approached from many different angles, and one chapter recapitulates what another has already stated. Some of the chapters, too, bewilder us, for we have to pass from considerations of technique to theoretical statements, and from one short clinical abstract to another. Fortunately, the confusion entailed by such construction is mitigated by an excellent index.

The book is a long one, and it seems exacting to ask for it to be still longer. But in both text and footnotes much material is condensed which we wish had been expanded; as, for instance, that which deals with the history of various patients and with actual events of their infancy and early childhood. For whilst the relation of neurotic symptoms to phantasy is made brilliantly clear, there is not the same clarity about their relation to the experiences of the ego. It is this relative obscurity that makes interpretations of some symptoms and play during analysis seem arbitrary. The phantasy is there; and when we consider the daily life of any infant we can guess what special tactile sensations, sights or sounds stimulated and gratified his instincts in the first instance, thereby laying down the pattern of his unconscious reactions. But interpretation of play cannot well be made convincing to the reader until the phantasy underlying the play has been connected with specific experience—as must have been done for the child during analysis. To record the connection at length another volume would be required, and to this volume we look forward with the greatest possible interest.

MERELL P. MIDDLEMORE.

The Physical Mechanism of the Human Mind. By A. C. DOUGLAS.
Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, 1932. Pp. 251. Diagrams 24.

This book is written by a surgeon, and purports to explain the whole of psychology in terms of physiology. The concepts of modern psychology are discussed as "mythical excrescences", and the psychology favoured by the author is associationism, behaviourism and gestaltism. The author claims that his book presents "a complete scientific theory of mind upon the materialistic basis which behaviourism rightly demands". He attempts to do this by an ingenious application of the phenomena of inhibition and chronaxy, with which he takes entirely unwarranted liberties. Such application of partially understood phenomena to form purely speculative hypotheses is entirely unscientific, and, while the results obtained may be interesting, they cannot be regarded as of any real value. The uncritical spirit in which the author supports his hypotheses is seen in his habit of choosing isolated hypotheses from different writers, and treating these as facts when they help to bolster up his views. Thus, a suggestion put forward in 1890 by Münsterberg that our time-duration sense is dependent on respiratory rhythm is taken as the basis of the author's suggested mechanism of our time-duration sense. Again, for his physiological explanation of the emotions he accepts the James-Lange

theory, and appears to think that the only adverse criticism to this has been Sherrington's animal experiments, and these the author dismisses quite lightly.

The book is quite readable, and may appeal to "the general reader", for whom it is mainly written, but physiologists and psychologists will scarcely regard it as a serious contribution to the subject with which it deals.

P. K. McCOWAN.

Les Séquelles de l'Encéphalite Epidémique. By G. GUILLAIN and P. MOLLARET. Paris: G. Doin et Cie. 1 vol. in 8vo. Pp. 104. Figs. 21. Price 28 fcs.

The literature dealing with chronic epidemic encephalitis is already very extensive, but the present monograph can be welcomed as an extremely useful exposition of the clinical aspect of the subject in the light of present-day knowledge.

In a short introduction, the authors point out how, with greater experience, the symptoms credited to the encephalitic process have become more and more numerous, but they very rightly warn against the very real danger of the uncritical inclusion in the chronic encephalitic syndrome of neurological symptoms of obscure origin.

There is a special chapter dealing with the parkinsonian syndrome, and the authors refer to certain cases which did not start till as late as five to ten years after the original acute attack. Perhaps because the French workers, Cruchet and Souques, hold that Parkinsonianism and paralysis agitans are the same disease, the authors are at pains to emphasize their view that the two conditions are different diseases which merely happen to have a similar pathological localization.

In discussing the clinical forms of Parkinsonianism, doubt is expressed whether there is such a type as the pure bradykinetic or akinetic type described by many authors. Instead it is suggested that sooner or later in these cases hypertonicity and exaggeration of the reflexes of posture appear, turning the case into the usual akinetic-hypertonic parkinsonian.

Following the chapter on Parkinsonianism come those on dystonias, abnormal movements, sensory troubles, affections of the special senses, vegetative, endocrine and visual disturbances. Most of these are dealt with very shortly, but plentiful references are given.

In discussing dystonic troubles, it is pointed out that torsion spasm is the most common of these, that such spasms are extremely rare apart from encephalitis, and that the authors have found stramonium superior to scopolamine in their relief.

In the chapter dealing with psychic disturbances, a number of references are cited in which the suggestion is made of a connection between Parkinsonianism and the catatonia of dementia præcox, but the authors rightly emphasize that the resemblance is merely due to a similar localization of the pathological processes in the two diseases.

A short chapter on diagnosis precedes the final one on treatment.

The references throughout the book are not unnaturally almost exclusively to French authors, and, singularly enough, one of the few mistakes in the book is in the short section dealing with therapeutics, where McCowan and Cook are incorrectly stated to have obtained good results with malarial therapy.

As this admirable monograph does not add anything new to our knowledge