

functional, Riddoch with the clinical manifestations of hypothalamic derangement, and Dott with surgical procedure.

Although all sections of the book are extremely well done, the first three chapters more nearly concern us as psychiatrists. The morphology is extraordinarily well done, and to anyone who is anatomically minded will prove a great source of pleasure. The sections dealing with the functional and clinical aspects will prove of particular interest at the moment when so much work is being done on the hypothalamus, more particularly in its relation to the sympathetic system. Recent work on the relationship of the hypothalamus and the sympathetic to schizophrenia is attaining some importance, and there are those who see ætiological possibilities in this relationship. We hope to see in later editions of this book further indications as to where recent research is leading us. The illustrations throughout are very good indeed, more particularly those in the section dealing with the surgery of the hypothalamus.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

**Sigmund Freud.** By FRANCIS H. BARTLETT. London: Victor Gollancz, Ltd., 1938. Pp. 141. Price 3s. 6d.

According to the author it is man's peculiar misfortune to be born into a society which has as its unit the family. Mr. Bartlett concedes that Freudian concepts in so far as they refer to this particular *milieu* are relatively true. But, it is argued, remove him into the ideal state, as it is conceived in the mind of the communist, and all these unpleasant drives, complexes and repressions will be rapidly eliminated. Their *raison d'être* will no longer exist. The achievement of this Utopia is an article of faith; the social revolution will take place and man's nature, his social organization, etc., will, in the natural order of things, alter in the direction desired by the author. In support of his views there are, of course, frequent references to Soviet Russia. Reports of trials and purges, of the methods of rebolshevizing the Army and Navy, and of the deliberate starvation of peasants by Soviet planners, do not suggest that Stalin's dictatorship has produced any profound modification in man's fundamental attributes. As Aldous Huxley has said, "Among the Communists ambition has been more or less effectively divorced from avarice, and the lust for power manifests itself in a form which is, so to say, chemically pure".

To speculate as to what would happen to man in a basically different *milieu* does not seem on the face of it particularly profitable, and is certainly a most unscientific occupation. Mr. Bartlett does not appreciate that good or bad man is his social *milieu*. It is an inherent part of his protective mechanism. He may modify it, possibly improve it, but the intactness of its basic structure is as vital to him as his skin. Curiously enough Mr. Bartlett accuses Freud of falling into the error of which he himself is so flagrantly guilty! As a scientific approach to the study of psychological and sociological problems this book has little if any value. As a typical example of a favourite form of retreat from reality, it may well be perused by the psychiatrist.

S. M. COLEMAN.

**Psychological Methods of Healing: An Introduction to Psychotherapy.**

By WILLIAM BROWN, D.M., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. London: University of London Press, Ltd., 1938. Pp. vii + 224. Price 7s. 6d.

Dr. Brown approaches his subject from three very distinct and not always easily reconcilable points of view. As a practitioner he favours hypnotism and such allied methods as suggestion, auto-suggestion and progressive