SPECIAL REVIEWS

CHAPTERS FROM MODERN PSYCHOLOGY

Chapters from Modern Psychology. JAMES ROWLAND ANGELL. New York: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1912. Pp. vii + 308.

This book contains eight lectures which Professor Angell delivered at Union College during the early part of the year 1911. As the lectures were prepared for presentation to a general college audience, they remain on the surface of the science. The entire field of psychology is sketched, but only those facts described which are necessary for a general idea of the subject. The style is of that clearness, fluency, and simplicity which we are accustomed to associate with the author, so that the book will not only interest the layman, but will afford the scientist several enjoyable hours.

The first chapter is upon General Psychology. It begins with a discussion of the methods of classification, then touches upon mental elements, instinct and impulses, reason, emotion, and will. It can give, the author says, "but an imperfect impression of the multifarious ways in which the energies of general psychology are engaged." Under the title Physiological Psychology are described the relation of mental to bodily processes, the dependence of mental experience on bodily organization, the relation of feeling to general somatic conditions, and the James-Lange theory of emotions. In Chapter III., on Experimental Psychology, experimentation in general is explained, and some typical experiences in audition, memory, association, and will are described. Abnormal Psychology considers dreams, hypnotism, suggestion, multiple personality, spiritism, telepathy and the subconscious. Chapter V. is divided into Individual and Applied Psychology. The first part includes individual differences in sensation and memory, types of imagery, attention, suggestion, reactions and emotion. In the second part, the usefulness of psychology for education, medicine, law, vocational guidance, and advertising is shown. In the chapter on Social Psychology, the author speaks of the psychology of language, play, and fine arts, the power of imitation and emulation, and the effect of a leader on mobs and crowds. In regard to race psychology, he says that the differences between races do not rest upon innate difference of brain structure but upon differ-

ence of environment and interest. The essay on Animal Psychology begins with the question of animal consciousness and intelligence. Descriptions of some well-known experiments follow. The last chapter, which is on General Genetic Psychology, refutes the theory that the characteristics of the savage are due to lack of reasoning power and efficiency in sensory activity. Their minds are not fundamentally different from those of civilized races nor do there seem to be important differences on the emotional side. "Mental evolution in man consists less in the accidental possession of higher native capacity and more in the better organization and the mastery of the technique of knowledge and thought." The chapter ends with a sketch of mental development in the individual.

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JAMES' PHILOSOPHY

La Philosophie de William James. TH. FLOURNOY. Saint-Blaise, 1911. Pp. 219. Fr. 2.50.

In the spring of 1910 the *Association chrétienne suisse d'Etudiants* invited Professor William James to address them at their reunion to be held in the following October. Professor James, whose health was then seriously impaired, replied accepting the invitation "in principle," saying, that is, that should his health sufficiently improve and should he remain in Europe until October, he would gladly address the Association. The reunion was held, but William James was no more, and to Professor Flournoy fell the solemn honor of addressing the Association in his stead. For many years a warm friend and admirer of the profoundly lamented psychologist and philosopher, Professor Flournoy chose for the subject of his address "The Philosophy of William James." It is this discourse, amplified and doubtless somewhat revised, which now appears in book-form.

Professor Flournoy, and we can say it without exaggeration, has given us a work which is, although in concise form, a sympathetic and penetrating biographical sketch, a notable contribution to letters, and a commanding piece of philosophical reasoning. He sums up with extraordinary articulateness the broader tendencies of the late Professor James's teaching; and all in the spirit of James himself, sometimes almost with his own inflection, challenges, as it were, the coming generations to consider attentively this envisage-