Sammlung Kleiner Schriften zur Neurosenlehre (A Collection of Short Papers on the Study of Neurosis). By PROF. SIGMUND FREUD. Second Series. Leipzig und Wien, Verlag Franz Deuticke, 1909.

This book consists of a collection of interesting papers on Neurosis. To enumerate them: Fragmentary Analysis of a Case of Hysteria; The Establishment of Facts and Psycho-Analysis; Impulsive Acts and Religious Experience; Character and Analeroticism; Hysterical Phantasies and Their Relation to Bisexuality; General Considerations of a Hysterical Attack; Apropos of Sexual Instruction to Children; Apropos of infantile Sexual Theories; Sexual Morality in Our Civilization and Modern Nervositat; The Poet and Phantasies.

In this review it is proposed to refer only to the first paper which forms the important constituent of the book and in which the central thought of Freud's theories are expressed in a practical application. However, it would not be amiss to consider briefly Freud's fundamental conception of Hysteria. According to Freud¹ certain premature sexual manifestations develop on constitutional basis and they are more or less of a perverse nature. At first, these manifestations do not lead to characteristic hysterical symptoms but at the time of puberty (the psychological puberty antedates maturity of the body) the phantasy contains infantile sexual characteristics of a constellated course.

On the strength of constitutional predisposition (affective) increased phantasies lead to formation of complexes² which are incompatible with the rest of consciousness content and hence a repression ensues through shame and disgust. It is to be remembered that the repression absorbs partially the libido and the rest of the libido is transferred to a beloved person thus causing an emotional conflict which is usually responsible for the outbreak of this peculiar disease. The symptoms of this disease are the result of the struggle of the libido against the repression and do not represent abnormal sexual manifestations.

Now we can proceed with the analysis of the first paper, Fragmentary Analysis of a Case of Hysteria, or better known as "Dora's Case."

Dora comes from a neurotic family; her father luetic and nervous; mother highly eccentric; the eldest sister psychoneurotic; brother hypochondriachal. The patient was 18 years of age when she came under Professor Freud's observation and at that time she presented the picture of hysteria (*petit mal*). She suffered from dyspnoea, and most probably from so-called *tadium vitæ*. For about a year aphonia was a constant

¹ In summing up Freud's conception of Hysteria, the reviewer consulted Dr. C. G. Jung's excellent article, *Die Freudische Hysterie Theorie Monatschrift f. Psych. und Neurologie*, 1908), which rendered him invaluable assistance.

² A "complex" may be defined a complex of ideas of an affective nature which are usually repressed unconsciously but under certain circumstances could be brought back to consciousness (Reviewer).

symptom. She coughed in a characteristic manner; the number of the attacks could not be established but their duration was from three to five weeks. Of late, a characteristic change in her disposition was noticed; she became seclusive, frequently quarreled with her mother, and once left a letter in which she expressed the wish of committing suicide but at no time did she make any actual attempt. It was learned that at 8 she had nervous dyspnoea which was first noticed after the ascension of a mountain. However, in 6 months she was completely cured, and the physician then diagnosed the case as "nervousness." Since the age of 12, she was subject to frequent attacks of migraine accompanied by half-sided headaches and nervous cough, but they grew gradually less in frequency till they disappeared completely. The case was treated by means of psychoanalysis. In about 4 years, the patient made a complete recovery and later contracted marriage.

Psychoanalysis and dream analysis revealed the psychological mechanism of the neurosis in a very interesting manner. When she was 8 years of age she heard her father breathe heavily during sexual congress with her mother and this made a striking impression upon her. At 14, the first kiss from her lover and then she experienced the weight of his body on her genitals. At 16, she had a love affair with K and maintained an unnatural love for her father. She was also in homo-sexual love with Mrs. K. because of her father's relations to the latter. Thus the symptoms are explained in the following manner: Disgust expresses suppression of the erogenic zone (the patient was a suckling till the age of 5, hence perverse erogenic zone). Aphonia resulted during the absence of her lover; it implied a symbolic representation—the lover was far away, hence she could not speak but was able to express her thoughts in writing—a means of conveying communication with absentees. The attacks of coughing, aphonia, and *tunnis nervosa* are explained on the trauma which she sustained in early childhood (hearing her father breathe during coitus). The fact that she continually reproached her father implied self-reproach for her peculiar attitude towards Mrs. K. The interpretations of the dreams are difficult and may thus be briefly outlined: In the first, she flees from her lover to her father, therefore seeking refuge in the disease in which she fulfills the wish which she can not realize in reality; in the second, she liberates herself from the influence of her father and comes in contact with reality.

The highly instructive communications of this volume are of great value and importance to the student of psycho-pathology inasmuch as they contain Prof. Freud's views up-to-date.

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