

through the vagaries of nature, and he ceased to fear contact; in fact, he used to bring his opponent's head home as a trophy. Here, again, we are shown an example of emotional ambivalence. The slain warrior was asked to forgive his murderer. Quite natural, too, that he should decide that the soul resided in the blood now, for with the gushing blood of the wounded life departed. A faulty biological concept is advanced when Wundt, in speaking of the blood as the carrier of the soul, states that the blood has no relation to inheritance. The complement fixation test does not bear out this plausible if erroneous idea.

In many ways this work of Wundt's is most praiseworthy. He refutes with clarity the presumptions of the anthropologists who try to advance theories of degeneration in regard to many of the customs of man. He postulates the more wholesome theories of constructive evolutionary development. The more primitive forms are placed in the order of their development and so a progressive program is presented. The order of presentation being primitive culture, totemism, the age of heroes and finally the age of gods.

Noteworthy in this book is the credit given to the comparative anthropology of Frazer, and in many instances the methods of Frazer are followed. Andrew Lang and Spencer also receive just praise. The book is written in a masterly fashion with great lucidity and charm. It serves as a goodly background to workers in anthropology, history and psychology. It furnishes much information and at the same time moves along unfolding chapter after chapter in the life history of man. It attempts to unfold this history back to the days of earliest antiquity and to spread apart the heavy curtain of the future.

Generous praise should be given to the painstaking work of Edward Leroy Shaub, who has presented this excellent English translation.

STRAGNELL.

Thomas, André. *LE RÉFLEXE PILO-MOTEUR.* Masson et Cie., Paris.

This most interesting and fascinating monograph, the first published work of the Fondation Dejerine, comes to us as a complete clinical-anatomical study of the sympathetic nervous system, particularly as it is related to the pilomotor, sweat and vasomotor mechanisms.

The opening chapters discuss the previously known anatomy and physiology of the sympathetic nervous system, in which the work of English physiologists is more or less closely adhered to. This is followed by methods of examination showing that the reflexes in question may be invoked by mechanical, thermal or electrical stimuli. It is usually hemilateral, monosegmental or universal. Certain areas are particularly sensitive, such as the neck and shoulders and the lower part of the axilla. Extensor side reactions are more readily provoked than flexor.

In Chapters III and IV the reactions following lesion of the cord are described. Here Thomas describes the reaction above as "en-

cephalic," since the upper cortical pathways are not interrupted, and the reflex below as "spinal." In general the pilomotor, sweat, vasomotor and thermal responses behave alike. Edema and pigmentations of the skin seem to follow similar laws.

In complete section, so far as the sensori-motor systems are concerned, Thomas's findings agree fairly well with those of Lhermitte and Head and Riddoch. A somewhat analogous type of complete establishment of the vegetative reflexes is observed by Thomas, so that the "shock" stage and the "mass reflex" stage of sensori-motor pathology have their more or less close parallels in the vegetative arc reflexes. Thus the pilomotor, sweat and vasomotor responses mount in intensity with the intensity of the defense reactions and the bladder and rectal automatic reestablishment.

One can not enter into the details of the author's findings, some of which have been reported in the French literature. One must read this interesting work containing as it does further observations on the sympathetic reflexes here noted in a number of other lesions of the nervous system. The work is full of practical as well as of more technical data. A most interesting discussion relative to the utilization of the sympathetic reflexes in conjunction with the known sensori-motor findings in the localization of segments involved in spinal-cord lesions may be singled out as especially valuable. There are a number of others which lack of space does not permit mentioning. This can all be said, however, in the final summing up of the monograph, as one of the best pieces of neurological work that has appeared in recent years.

Pönitz, Karl. DIE KLINISCHE NEUORIENTIERUNG ZUM HYSTERIE-PROBLEM UNTER DEM EINFLUSSE DER KRIEGSERFAHRUNGEN. Julius Springer, Berlin. 28 marks.

The author first rather hastily and summarily discusses the general trend of the influence of the war experience upon recent formulations of the hysteria problem. From this there emerges more distinctly the *wish* element in the formation of this group of disturbances.

The patient is or was interested in his sickness. His wish and his will to be ill are an important element in its causation. This is not, however, necessarily a conscious process. Bearing on this generalization he quotes a number of experiences with prisoners of war. Here the severe shock neuroses seem to be almost entirely absent. His own nine months' observation of over 80,000 prisoners of war failed to reveal a single case of abasia, astasia, mutism, tremor or hysterical cramp state. Severe wounds that relieve the soldier of further participation in war activities seem to have a similar result so far as hysterical features are concerned.

From this the author enters into a timid discussion of the Freudian concept of the "unconscious flight" into a neurosis. This is about as far as he gets, however, and leaves the matter just about where the psychoanalytic formulations begin.