

and of a preliminary nature. Freud was aware of this and constantly revised his theoretical views concerning the basic impulses (instincts) and anxiety. These formulations, like overlapping geological layers, contain ideas belonging to different phases of his intellectual struggles.

Fenichel did not possess sufficient independence of critical judgment to distill successfully from this heterogeneous compound of theoretical concepts a consistent theoretical system. This is particularly true of the first portion of his book, which was added as a general theoretical introduction to his original publication, *Outline of clinical psychoanalysis*, from which this present book has been rewritten. In spite of the attempt to present clinical psychoanalysis in the framework of a theoretical system, this book, as his first one, is more a reference book than a text. It will be of immense value to advanced students, particularly research workers in the field, because it contains a meticulous and well-nigh complete survey of the significant psychoanalytic writings. However, it will not make it easier for the student to learn the basic concepts of psychoanalysis. With the exception of isolated portions, the author did not succeed in further clarifying or expressing with less verbosity the principles of psychoanalysis. This is not true, however, of the last chapter, devoted to "Therapy and Prophylaxis of Neuroses." Here Fenichel succeeds in freeing himself to a degree from traditional ways and approaches this important topic with much more freshness of thought than the remaining topics.

In the general part, the fundamental dynamic facts and the generalizations built immediately upon them—the concepts of repression, projection, displacement, substitution, reaction formation, rationalization, identification, and particularly the integrative functions of the Ego and the specific forms of its failures—are not given sufficiently thorough treatment. No attempt is made to present them in the framework of generally valid psychodynamic principles in order that they may serve as a solid foundation for the whole theoretical structure. As a result, the book is not a cohesive, compact presentation but a somewhat kaleidoscopic exposition of observations, generalizations of lower and higher grade, and speculative superstructure. There is very little critical reservation, particularly in applying highly theoretical concepts to observational material. This creates an overly didactic impression.

A good textbook on psychoanalysis remains to be written, and the author of this future book will find Fenichel's reference work of immense help as a source of information. Fenichel, in a selfless manner, kept in the background and tried to present his material as much as possible in conformity with previous formulations. The places in which he used his own judgment and reasoning are superior, which further proves that science is in constant organic growth and cannot stand still. The follower's role is not only to build upon the foundations laid down by his scientific predecessors but also to try constantly to clarify what he inherited and to express it with the greatest possible internal consistency.

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AVERILL, LAWRENCE AUGUSTUS, and KEMPF, FLORENCE C. *Psychology applied to nursing*. (3rd ed.) Philadelphia-London: W. B. Saunders, 1946. Pp. xv + 496. (Illustrated.) \$2.50.

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SEMAT, HENRY. *Introduction to atomic physics*. (Rev. ed.) New York: Rinehart, 1946. Pp. xi + 412. (Illustrated.) \$4.50.

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