

from it seems to be rather small. Psychoanalysis is going back from where Freud came. He realized that hypnosis offers no cure. It makes a person with little self-confidence feel only more insignificant in comparison to the supernatural role of the psychiatrist. In the moment of crisis, psychoanalysis regresses into its infantile stage. When will they learn to treat human beings not with hocus-pocus, but with dignity? Our contemporaries and especially those who fail under the strain of our time, need encouragement, self-reliance, and social responsibility. The new psychoanalytic techniques delay such trends. For this reason they might even be considered dangerous at a time when the soldiers, the public and the physician look to psychiatry for help and assistance.

\*\*\*\*\*

R. D.

#### INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL ANECDOTE

A father had some trouble with his two young sons. They were different from each other as day and night. They both went to the extremes. One was an optimist and could not see life as it is; the other was an extreme pessimist, unable to enjoy anything. The father sought a method to teach them a lesson and, if possible, to change their outlook. Christmas came and he had a bright idea. When the boys hung their stockings for gifts, he provided gifts which he thought would impress upon them the mistakes of their outlook and expectations.

The next morning the boys emptied the stockings and brought their presents to their anxious father. To his great surprise and discomfort, the pessimist had again his sour face and disappointed expression. "What did you get?" the father asked. The boy showed a wonderful wrist watch and said, "I got a watch, but it probably won't run anyhow". "And what did you get?" asked the father. The optimist, who was beaming, showed a handful of horse manure and exclaimed, with utter joy, "I got a horse, but he ran away."

That shows how futile are attempts to teach people who have a definite outlook on life, unless you help to change their style of life first. The "tendentious apperception" is almost unlimited in interpreting facts according to our thinking.

R.D.