

matical talents. One day, undoubtedly, we will know what toys to give them to make new Goethes, new geniuses."

The statement is bold, certainly, but not at all exaggerated if one ponders it well. There will not be any "new Goethe" or "new Michael-Angelo", for actual sociological conditions prevent them from arising in the fashion they were able to in their time. But nothing will prevent us from believing that by means of an adequate education, woman will be able to achieve the same intellectual rewards as man, and that we will become acquainted with numerous feminine geniuses.

Psychology in Italy

PAUL PLOTTKE, PERUGIA, ITALY

In his pamphlet "La Psicologia come ricerca autonoma"¹, Professor Alberto Marzi, Director of the Institute for Psychology at the University of Florence, mentions a fact which was characteristic of Psychology in Fascist Italy: In 1937, the "Bureau International d'Education" in Geneva made an inquiry into the importance attributed to the study of psychology by different countries. Of 42 great nations, 41 reported that they had made the study of psychology compulsory for future teachers; one, however, namely Mussolini's Italy, said it had introduced in its place "philosophical and pedagogical readings"—which had, of course, quite a particular character.

Prof. Piaget said, in commenting on this fact, that as nobody denied the necessity of the study of anatomy and of physiology in the preparation of a physician, it cannot be seen how a psychological preparation could be excluded from the curriculum of teachers who have to form the minds of their pupils and should know something about the laws of their functioning and their development. Of course, Professor Piaget is a free Swiss; and the great Maria Montessori left her country for France and taught and wrote freely in French, while the fascist school reform of 1923 banished psychology from all secondary schools. This consequently diminished also the prestige of Italian university psychology.

There is still nowadays in all Italy only one chair for psychology in existence, held by Mario Ponso, successor of Sante De Sanctis. It is true that there is also P. Agostino Gemelli (who collaborated occasionally at our *Internationale Zeitschrift fuer Individualpsychologie*) and who holds a chair for psychology at the Italian Catholic University. However, in 15 universities, courses of psychology are available for students of all faculties, and new text books are being translated and written. Besides, within the "Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche", a "Centro per le applicazioni della psicologia" has been created.

The 40-year-old "Rivista Di Psicologia", sleeping since 1943, is about to reappear. A paper on "Dynamism of the Human Personality" has been accepted and will be the first I.P. publication in this review for "normal, pathologic and applied" psychology.

The U. S. Army University, while functioning in Florence, has made a quantity of modern psychological material available to Italian readers in form of a "Technical Bulletin"², which reached many teachers in secondary schools. We were pleased to find in No. 2, page 22, a digest of L. Ackerson's article in the "Journal of Genetic Psychology", 1943, on the "Feeling of Inferiority and its Correlations in Children". This paper reports the research carried out by the Research Institute in Illinois on over 3000 children and summarizes thus the conclusions which confirm Adler's findings: (1) Real organic, mental, or social inferiorities do not account in themselves for feelings of inferiority; (2) A higher intelligence tends to go with a feeling of inferiority; (3) Social influences give rise to feelings of inferiority more often than organic ones.

Recently, a book of psychology by an Italian was very successful, a kind of guide through man.³ The author, P. M. Comparetti, a non-practicing physician, stands outside the university psychology and has developed in 30 years of passionate studies a very elaborate "chemistry" of the personality, which allows him to establish in about 10 hours a very precise "profile" of a personality and to guide him successfully in his behavior. He may have success when going to the States as he plans; however, despite all the admiration the man and his work evoked in me, I think that a more dynamic view is imperative and that the concept of "life-style" is more useful and adequate than his "profile" for understanding human behavior—apart from Comparetti's study being one of *elements* and their *combination*, a method not appropriate to the study of human beings who are plastic, indivisible *wholes* striving after a *goal*.

So it is not to be wondered at that Adler and his Individual Psychology are nearly unknown in Italy. The professional psychologists and psychiatrists with whom I had the advantage to talk in Perugia and Florence just seemed to know of the existence of Individual Psychology, and Morselli⁴ mentions Adler's works ("Adlerismo") and Alice Ruehle's comparative study "Freud and Adler" several times—but that is all. A more complete treatment of Adler is to be found in Enzo Bonaventura⁵. The author, a Jewish professor, had to leave Italy and is now in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. A second edition of his book has appeared lately.

Disciples of Freud have started in 1945 a new Italian Review "Psicoanalisi"⁶, which has appeared irregularly and is quite orthodox. A translation of my introduction to Individual Psychology⁷ and of a selection of papers are in preparation and may touch part of the Italian public outside the narrow circle of professional psychologists and psychiatrists.

- ¹Alberto MARZI, *La Psicologia come ricerca autonoma*, Editrice Universitaria, Firenze, 1945. A separate print of the introduction to his translation of the *Manual of Psychology* by Paul Guillaume of the University of Paris.
 - ²"Educazione, Psicologia, Assistenza Sociale", *Rassegna della Stampa Pedagogica e Sociologica degli Stati Uniti*, Ufficio Informazioni Stati Uniti.
 - ³P. M. COMPARETTI, *Bussola per navigare tra gli uomini*, Bompiani, 1944.
 - ⁴Enrico MORSELLI, *LA PSICANALISI*, *Studii ed appunti critici*, Torino, 1926.
 - ⁵Enzo BONAVENTURA, *La Psicanalisi*, Milano, 1938.
 - ⁶Direttore G. FLESCHER, Editrice "Scienza Moderna", Roma.
 - ⁷Paul PLOTCKE, *La Paix des Nerfs, Expose' d'une psychologie pratique*, Editions du Montblanc, Geneva, 2nd ed. 1945.
-

The Development of Individual Psychology in Brazil

RUDOLF DREIKURS, M. D., CHICAGO

Brazil today is a country which has recently freed itself from dictatorship and is striving to establish political democracy and to improve its economic and social conditions. Professional circles become increasingly interested in educational and psychological problems, physicians in psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine. Although there exists no organized Psychoanalytic group in Rio de Janeiro, a great number of physicians are influenced by the writings of Freud and the psychoanalysts. On the other hand, the Individual Psychology Association, founded nine years ago, held for many years regular meetings, and a number of physicians practiced the techniques of psychotherapy developed by Alfred Adler. Dr. Januario Bittencourt, the president of the Association, was the leading spirit of these activities. Dr. Danilo Perestrello, who studied Individual Psychology with Dr. Murillo de Campos, is the new president of a group of young psychiatrists which formed the Centro de Estudos Juliano Moreira; he published an excellent discourse on Individual Psychology. Dr. Antonio da Silva Mello, professor of Internal Medicine, was the first one in Brazil to become interested in the problems of Psychosomatic Medicine, many years ago. He had studied with Wilhelm Stekel in