Die Krankheitslehre der Psychoanalyse (The psychoanalytic concept of disease)
The authors are Dr. Wolfgang Loch, “Privatdozent” and “Wissenschaft-licher Rat”, University of Tubingen and Director of the Institute for Psychotherapy, Stuttgart, as well as Dr. Peter Kutter (Psychiatrist), Dr. Herman Roskamp (Psychiatrist) and Dr. Wolfgang Wesiack (Internist) who are lecturers at the Institute for Psychotherapy, Stuttgart.
The book deals with the psychoanalytic concept of disease; it contains four chapters.
In the first chapter Dr. Loch gives an authoritative outline of psychoanalytic theory under the following headings: the five metapsychological points of view, the nature of psychological conflict, the model of drives, the development and function of mental apparatus associated with ego, id and superego as well as the defense mechanisms, particularly the subject of repression.
In the second chapter, entitled “An outline of neurosis”, Dr. Roskamp provides an introduction to dreams as evidence of psychic activity during sleep and the intrapsychic conflict in neurosis.
This is followed by a description of drives and objects in development of mental apparatus as well as by a description of the causes and precipitating circumstances of a neurosis.
In the third chapter, “Psychiatric diseases”, Dr. Kutter deals with the most important psychodynamic factors of schizophrenia, melancholia and mania as well as the circumstances precipitating these conditions. In addition, Dr. Kutter touches on the “borderlines”, sexual perversions, psychopaths, addiction, criminal behavior and prostitution.
In the fourth chapter, “Introduction to psychosomatic medicine”, Dr. Wesiack gives a definition of the term “psychosomatic”. Then, on the basis of the concepts of Franz Alexander and Thure von Uexküll, Dr. Wesiack endeavours to formulate a theory of psychodynamics of psychosomatic disorders. In this connection, he also discusses the functional disorders.
The four authors have been very successful in giving a short but pregnant introduction to psychoanalytic theory and the psychoanalytic concept of disease. Those readers who wish to widen their psychoanalytic knowledge will find excellent indications of what to read in the extensive bibliographic notes which follow each of the four chapters.
In his foreword, the editor, Dr. Loch, expresses the hope that this book will stimulate all those who are concerned with human psychology. Indeed, due to the merits of the four authors, it can safely be said that Dr. Loch’s hope will certainly be fulfilled.
H. Freyberger (Hamburg)
fundamental, not only for psychoanalysis but for medicine as such, for psychology, anthropology and ethology.
The book is introduced by Dr. Raymond Saussure (Geneva) who honors the great man, teacher, theorist and investigator. Anna Freud (London) in her “Discussion with Spitz” describes common features and differences in her and Spitz’ work on child development. E.C.M. Frijling-Schreuder (Amsterdam) deals with the practical problems of handling transference and counter-transference problems in child analysis, and Jacques Berna (Zurich), in his excellent theoretical article, outlines the question of role play (acting out) versus verbal techniques. Sally Provence (New York) tries to specify the relationships between certain frustrations and corresponding somatic reactions in the first year of life. Gerd Biermann (Munich) writes about the conclusions on hospital treatment of young children that have been drawn by hospital authorities in various countries in order to avoid the deleterious consequences of the mother-child separation. Jeanne Lampl-de Groot (Amsterdam) connects the concept of coenesthetic perception, which—according to Spitz—prevails in the communication between mother and infant, with the faculty of empathy (intuition) in the adult, and sees this as very important in the patient-analyst relationship. In a highly interesting article Lawrence S. Kubie (Sparks, Md., USA) discusses the problem of terminating an analytical relationship. Ulrich Moser (Zurich) describes a theory of the stages of development of object cathexis, which—according to the author—can serve as a basis for a genetic explanation of defense mechanisms. P.J. van der Leeuw (Amsterdam) contributes a historical and systematical analysis of the concept of “Metapsychology”. There are two excellent articles by Joseph Sandler and W.G. Joffe (London). The first paper deals with the problem of structure, function and change of function in the development of the ego apparatus. In the second paper the authors discuss whether a merely quantitative interpretation of libidinal cathexis of object and self suffices to explain narcissistic disorders of various kinds. Erhard Künzler (Heidelberg) contributes a critique of Konrad Lorenz’s views on endogenous innate instinctual behaviour in infancy. Harry F. and Margaret Harlow (Milwaukee) have succeeded in demonstrating in their excellent paper the hypothesized “development triad” of social behavior, namely love, fear, aggression on the basis of their rhesus monkey experiments. Finally Herbert Gaskill and Janice Norton (Denver) give a report on training problems in a psychiatric clinic in the USA.
At the end of the book one finds an extensive bibliography of Spitz’ writings and films from 1924 to 1966. This book can be highly recommended, not only to all workers in the field of child development and psychoanalysis but also to all those connected with psychology in general.
H. Otte (Hamburg)
system, the psychological findings in patients suffering from rheumatism (including the “cortisone psychoses”), the relations between the manifestation of rheumatic disorders and psychologically precipitating circumstances and psychotherapeutic aspects. In the next chapter proposals concerning the psychotherapeutic training of general practitioners are dealt with. Furthermore, the author contributes some ideas on the important part played by psychological stress. A further chapter covers one of Dr. Schulte’s own research fields, namely addiction as a category of psychiatric diseases and the related psychotherapeutic problems. Those chapters on special psychotherapeutic problems commence by dealing with anorexia nervosa and enuresis nocturna, and in them the author gives extensive information to his readers on the different therapeutic methods. In the following chapters Dr. Schulte explains the indications and technique used in his “communicative personal psychotherapy”. He uses this psychotherapy in patients who are not suitable for psychoanalysis. Some clinical examples of his indications are patients suffering from quite severe depression or from fairly serious organic disease or from disorders connected with the aging process.

Dr. S. Schulte is definitely a convincing supporter of dynamic psychiatry. This book can be recommended to all general practitioners who are interested in psychotherapeutic problems, but the psychotherapist will also benefit from reading it. H. Freyberger (Hamburg)