Relationship between the Absolute and Differential Thresholds for an Auditory Stimulus. Kenneth, J. H., and Thouless, R. H.

The problem with which this investigation is concerned is the relationship between the absolute and the differential threshold. Are they two different phenomena, or is the absolute threshold simply the limiting value of the differential threshold obtained when the lower of the presented stimuli equals zero? The stimuli chosen were auditory—sounds produced by a loud-speaker and an ingenious arrangement of two resistances. It was found that the absolute and differential auditory thresholds were continuous with each other. There is no sudden emergence of a new law when the value of the absolute threshold of the stimulus is passed, and Weber's Law is very far from being fulfilled for low stimulus values.

Some Quantitative Experiments with Eidetic Imagery. Gengerelli, J. A.

The writer describes some experiments with two girls, aged 11 and 15 years, which appear to be rather of an exploratory character.

Reaction-time, Flicker, and Affective Sensitiveness as Tests of Extraversion-Introversion. Washburn, M. F., Hughes, E., Stewart, C., and Sligh, G.

The results obtained do not encourage the belief that objective tests of extraversion-introversion will be found.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Psyche, No. 40, *April*, 1930.

This number contains the following articles:

The Sexual Problems of Adolescence and Adult Life.—I. Crookshank, F. G.

The author professes to treat the subject from the standpoint of Adler's individual-psychology but appears to have retained a good many points of Freudian views, such as the Œdipus complex, narcissism, etc. Sexual repression is considered incompatible with wholesome, non-neurotic life, and a proper sexual adjustment is necessary for the fullest development of such life. Social conventions, in respect to sexual life, must be so adjusted that the greatest happiness of the greatest number, and the greatest stability of the community, together with the greatest security of the individual, are alike ensured and promoted. The secret of individual-psychology, in sexual, social, familial, or occupational relationships, lies in the maintenance of a just balance between the demands of the ego and the group or community. The trauma, the insult, the injury are less important than the courage with which they met. There seems little to quarrel with in these Adlerian points of view, although the retention of the few Freudian points seems to be unwarranted.

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Synæsthesia in Music. Vernon, P. E.

In this paper coloured hearing or musical synæsthesia is discussed from a new angle, and (1) pitch, (2) timbre or tone colour, (3) keys or tonalities, (4) chords or progressions are each considered in relation with (*a*) colours, tastes, odours and temperatures, (*b*) visual, kinæsthetic or symbolic qualities, (*c*) emotional qualities or affective characterizations.

The Artistic Process. Bruen, C.
Mechanism and Vitalism in the Light of Critical Biology. von Bertalauffy, L. (Vienna).

This is a defence by a vitalist of Eugenio Rignano's vitalistic or teleological views against an attack by Needham, of Cambridge.

The Psychology of Belief. Lawton, G.

This is a popular essay on belief. Belief means here not what is held to be true, but what one would wish to be true. When the scientific worker walks out of his laboratory, he ceases, so we are told, to be a scientific worker, " he becomes a human being, a layman, subject to the same emotions as all of us." It is the necessity of this emotional relief which is the root of religion. Prayer, a diary, the autobiography, the subjective work of fiction, the confidante, the Catholic confessional, the evangelist and revivalist audience, the spiritualistic message bearer, the psycho-analyst—all are the same type of relief. Many of those who cannot accept the conventional religious systems take as a substitute the system of atheism. To deny the commonly accepted God and doctrine of immortality gives as much emotional satisfaction as to affirm them. The solemn denial of God is a religious act.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Psyche, No. 41, *July*, 1930.

This number contains the following articles:

The Psychology of Debabelization. Editorial.

A further plan for " Basic English " as a universal language.

Can Social Engineers Improve the International Language Situation? Shenton, H. N.

A paper on the same subject.

On Individual Psychology and the Sexual Problems of Adolescence.—II. Crookshank, F. G.

This second lecture continues the theme of the first, published in the previous number of the journal. It gives sound advice and norms on Adlerian lines, not only to adolescents but to neurotics

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