the Romance races as female, and in Romance languages the word is of feminine gender. Discussing the views of commentators of Calderon's plays that the death-skeleton was symbolic of man held by mortal sins, the author inclines to the view that it is expressive of intense gynæcophobia. The so-called "Dances of Death" (danses macabres) may possibly be traced to the same origin. Wedding and Death in Spanish romances and fairy-tales and the Don Juan myth are treated on similar lines.

Individual Psychological Reflections on Tolstoy [*Individualpsychologische Betrachtungen über Tolstoi*]. *Polak, Else.*

This paper reviews Tolstoy's life and writings and interprets them in the light of Adler's individual-psychological teachings. The paper is interesting in so far as the story of the life is told and on account of the warmth and enthusiasm with which it is told. There is much picking and choosing and twisting to make the facts fit the theory. The unbiased psychologist will fail to be convinced by these futile outpourings of a kind which are flooding the sectarian press.

Religious Redemption and Individual-Psychological Healing [*Religiöse Erlösung und Individualpsychologische Heilung*]. *Neumann, J.*

Individual psychology and religion have some common ground and objects and a discussion of these becomes, therefore, unavoidable. There is no such thing as a purely psychic illness in the sense of an inner conflict of the isolated soul. All such illnesses are only understandable as a disturbance of social relationships. In the place of the "Logic of Life" as Adler calls it, *i.e.*, the objective order of life of mutual relations, there has appeared the "Logic of Power," of attack, of the predominance of the individual principle over the social principle and this causes the social and psychic illness. The immanent goal of religion is the redemption of the ego from the meshes of selfishness and the realization of a world of love; the goal of individual psychology is the healing of the psychic sick through the realization of a world in which the feeling of community reigns. The therapist points out to the patient the causes of his sickness. To this explanation and understanding is added encouragement, which leads to an amelioration of the social relationships and with it to psychic healing and bodily cure. Then begins the final function: the return of the newly oriented subject into the community of those who are already individual-psychologically advanced.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Psyche, October, 1928.

This number of *Psyche* contains the following articles:

"*Eolithic Art*" (*Editorial*).

This article raises the question whether the flints which bear some alleged resemblance to animals have not been produced by ordinary geological crunching, water-pressure, fire, frost and similar

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natural processes. It might also have been added that possibly much depends upon the imagination of the examiner, as it does in the case of the interpretation of ink-blots.

Treatment without Certification. I. D. S.

A strong argument against compulsory treatment.

On Word Formation. Lockhart, L. W.

An interesting paper on how words (nouns, verbs, etc.) should be derived one from another.

Word-values. Palmer, H. E.

This paper discusses the difficulties of serious students of foreign languages in the choice of the right word.

The Creative Theory of Evolution. Claremont, C. A.

This paper is decidedly of interest to the psychologist as an example of emotional thinking or rationalization. The following quotation will give an idea of the trend of the paper: "Of course, our theory merely insists upon the *order* of the necessary time-sequence, and says nothing about its spread; but, for that matter, neither does Genesis, if the latitude be permitted, of which many believers avail themselves, in the interpretation of the word "day." We have, on the other hand, sufficiently substantiated evidence of instantaneous, or supra-normally rapid healings of organic lesions at Lourdes; and hence it is not for us to set limits to the speed at which such creative agency as may be present can work. Again, we are not told that God ceased all work of a creative kind after the first Sabbath." Probably the writer is not acquainted with the writings of Hering, Richard Semon, Eug. Rignano, Samuel Butler, and others, or else the quotation from Starling's *Physiology* about the growth of nerves would not have caused him the difficulty it evidently did.

The Evidential Value of Certain Mediumistic Phenomena. Dingwall, E. J.

The writer, after referring to certain papers that have been read before the British Association and the Society for Psychical Research on cross-correspondence and telepathy, points out of what nature the evidence ought to be in order to be satisfactory and convincing, and then gives examples of what is as a matter of fact accepted as satisfactory by votaries of the occult.

Day-Dreams in the Spanish Ballads. Aitken, Barbara.

Translations of a number of popular Spanish ballads are given and each is "analysed" in the wonted psycho-analytic fashion.

The Individual and the Community. Schiff, C.

This paper discusses the individual, the community and many other things besides, as understood by an "Adlerian Individual-psychologist."

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Gold; An Anthropologist's View of the Economic Problem. Demant, V. A.

"Gold is the supreme symbol of man's unconscious fixation to the idea of scarcity, which is the psychological basis of economics as now misunderstood." The writer begins with a description of barter and gives a too brief history of it, leading up to our present monetary system; he touches only very superficially upon the *scarcity theory of gold* and the *commodity theory of money*, and is not likely to influence economists very greatly.

Artistic Activity. Bruen, Curtis.

The meaning of artistic activity is described. The paper is well written and interesting, and should be read by those interested in æsthetics.

The Linguistic Barrier in Literary Intercourse. Eldridge, S.

After enlarging upon the disadvantages accruing from the fact that but very few people are able to read satisfactorily foreign languages, the writer suggests an endowment to train and employ professional translators to translate all important works.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

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3. Clinical Psychiatry.

External Influences as Precipitating Factors in Schizophrenia and Manic-Depressive Insanity [*Auslösung der Schizophrenie und des manisch-depressiven Irreseins durch äussere Einflüsse*]. (*Psych.-Neur. Wochens., No.* 35, *September* 1, 1928.) *Bratz, E.*

As referee to the German Pensions' and Insurance Tribunals, the author has laid down as a general ruling in dealing with cases of insanity that "schizophrenic processes depend on congenital disposition and that their causation by external influences must be regarded as a doubtful possibility only." He agrees that further investigation into this question is necessary and considers that the most profitable line of research is the study of cases of uniovular twins. He has collected the views of several authorities on biology and genetics. The general conclusion reached so far is that it is possible for one of a pair of uniovular twins to develop a psychosis, while the other remains normal, but that this occurs as a result of severe organic damage only, never from mental stress alone; further, the psychosis is probably always a reactive depression, not a true manic-depressive insanity nor a schizophrenic process.

A. WALK.

Pathological Restriction of Consciousness [*Pathologische Einengung der Bewusstseins*]. (*Psych.-Neur. Wochens., No.* 35, *September* 1, 1928.) *Scharfetter, H.*

Voluntary choice of action is impossible under three conditions: when there is insufficient time for more than one thought to come

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