

## Soul Science and Mysticism

**K**ANT suffered from gout, and succeeded in mitigating his suffering by diverting his attention to philosophical problems. With this and similar facts as a basis it is possible to build up a scientific analysis of consciousness and emotion; with the same foundation it is possible to build up confusion and mysticism.

The firmer path is chosen by the "psychoanalytic" school. *What Is Psychoanalysis?* by Dr. Isador H. Coriat, gives a clear and helpful explanation of the methods and principles of psychoanalysis in the form of a catechism for beginners of the study. *The History and Practise of Psychoanalysis*, by Dr. Paul Bjerre, is both critical and illuminating. It contains bits of philosophy as well as illustrative cases, and constantly emphasizes the prior claim of practical application as against interest in speculation. Dr. Ferenczi's *Contributions to Psycho-Analysis* consists of a dozen odd papers selected and translated by Dr. Ernest Jones. Some of the studies are almost uncanny in their searching insight into the repressed thoughts and feelings of ordinary human beings, and they all reveal something that will interest those who are concerned with the more subtle and at the same time the most practical phases of psychology.

The Emmanuel Movement's contribution to "the moral and religious forces in healing" is ably and sincerely presented by Dr. Loring W. Batten in *The Relief of Pain by Mental Suggestion*. This is both empirical and eclectic, seeking to discriminate between various types of ill-health, and to utilize whatever science has to offer while adhering to the assurance that religion is a dynamic force of great potency.

Horatio W. Dresser's *Handbook of the New Thought* will, no doubt, be helpful to many readers—but it is a baffling attempt to show that

theories do not matter, so long as one has the right "point of view." Its logic is distressingly confusing to one who has been contaminated by materialist science; but there must be something in it, since Mr. Dresser's books--more than a dozen of them--are widely read by all sorts and conditions of men and women. *A Simple Study in Theosophy*, by Michael J. Whitty succeeds in its object of stating some portions of the theosophic theory without technical terminology. It is a useful book for those who would have some idea of the general scheme of this revival of ancient thought.

*What Is Psychoanalysis?* by I. H. Coriat. Moffat, Yard & Co. 75 cents. *History and Practice of Psychoanalysis*, by Paul Bjerre. *Contributions to Psychoanalysis*, by Dr. Ferenczi. R. G. Badger, Boston. \$3 each. *The Relief of Pain by Mental Suggestion*, by L. W. Batten. Moffat, Yard & Co. \$1.25. *Handbook of New Thought*, by H. W. Dresser. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.25. *Simple Study in Theosophy*, by M. J. Whitty. Mitchell Kennerley. \$1.25.