

Book Reviews

HANNAH S. DECKER, *Freud in Germany. Revolution and reaction in science, 1893–1907*, New York, International Universities Press, 1977, (*Psychological Issues*, vol. 11, no. 1, monograph 41), 8vo, pp. xi, 361, [no price stated].

The reception of Freud and his new psycho-analysis by different countries makes an interesting study. The author is concerned here only with Germany's reaction, and is dealing with a challenge to the established order, as was the case elsewhere. It follows that the process is of great complexity, the most significant factor being Victorian attitudes towards sexuality and childhood, predominantly repression and hypocrisy concerning the former.

This book is concerned mainly with the medical reception of psycho-analysis, but the second portion investigates the early interaction of experimental psychology and psycho-analysis, which reveals interesting differences. The third section concerns the response of the educated German public, and finally the author discusses certain significant nineteenth-century intellectual trends vital to the reception of psycho-analysis in Germany. The text is well written and documented, but the author, being committed to the technique, is not able to be critical enough of it.

H. TRISTRAM ENGELHARDT jr., and STUART F. SPICKER (editors), *Mental health: philosophical perspectives*, Dordrecht and Boston, D. Reidel, 1978, pp. xxii, 302, Dfl. 55.00/\$19.95.

This volume resulted from the fourth Trans-disciplinary Symposium on Philosophy and Medicine held in Galveston, Texas, in May 1976. The organizers, H. T. Engelhardt jr., and S. F. Spicker, assembled a distinguished faculty of philosophers, historians, and psychiatrists, including Alan Donagan, Stephen Toulmin, Horacio Fabrega jr., and Thomas Szasz. Despite the talents of individual participants, the papers and recorded commentaries are of mixed quality. Alan Donagan's 'How much neurosis should we bear?' stands out as a thoughtful exposition of the concept of neurosis as loss of autonomy. Irving Thalberg and Caroline Whitbeck also explore aspects of this theme. Other contributions are concerned with the mind-body problem, medical taxonomy, and the late Erwin Straus's phenomenological approach to an anthropological psychiatry. The one traditional historical paper—that of Chester Burns on nineteenth-century American medico-legal traditions—is superficial. Thomas Szasz's article merely repeats some of his well-known strictures on contemporary psychiatric practice and, if the printed 'Round-table discussion' reflects the actual occasion, Szasz refused to engage in any sort of dialogue with his critics and commentators.

Although most non-philosophical readers will find some of the papers rather heavy going, Engelhardt's twenty-page introduction to the volume gives excellent summaries of the individual contributions and some useful reflections on the symposium's general theme.

WILLIAM A. R. THOMSON, *Spas that heal*, London, Adam & Charles Black, 1978, 8vo, pp. x, 222, illus., £5.25.

Yet another book on spas. It deals mainly with those in Britain, but also discusses those on the Continent briefly. There are also chapters on 'Hydrotherapy and