

bring home to him, involuntary tribute to the power of advertising that he acclaims elsewhere. Again, he has swallowed with completely uncritical innocence the official Ford legend. Let him read *The Tragedy of Henry Ford* by Jonathan Norton Leonard (G. P. Putnam's Sons, \$3). This book is just out, but so much was already common knowledge that Mr. Wells cannot be acquitted of complicity—he was not an unwilling gull. This may seem a severe verdict. But read him on the 'ultra-scholastic education' that the 'citizen' gets from newspapers, radio, cinema, and so on (pp. 745ff.): 'On the whole, it is sound stuff he gets.' I know that Mr. Wells's criteria are not mine; but even by his own what he lets out elsewhere is enough to brand his complacency as something worse.

We can respect him as we cannot respect Arnold Bennett, but it is significant that, for all his disinterestedness, he is not safe from the Arnold Bennett corruption.

F. R. LEAVIS.

MANY PSYCHOLOGIES

PSYCHOLOGIES OF 1930. Edited by Carl Murchison (Clark University Press. London: Humphrey Milford. 1930. Pp. xx-498. 36/-).

THE MIND AND ITS BODY. Charles Fox. (Kegan Paul. 1931. Pp. xii-316. 10/6).

THE NERVOUS TEMPERAMENT. Millais Culpin and May Smith (H.M. Stationery Office. 1930. Pp. iv-52. 1/-).

Psychologies of 1930 would, if it were generally read, help to correct two mistaken attitudes towards psychology. Sharp divisions of opinion on technical questions, endless difficulties in interpreting experimental results, age-old dilemmas of theory to be faced—all these are exhibited here, and ought to give check to the people who think cheerfully that it's only a matter of time before psychology has everything straightened out. It possibly is only a matter of time, but such a long time that none of us need feel

cheerful about it. On the other hand those who regard 'psychologies' as being nothing but undisciplined speculation by psychopathologists or extreme behaviourists will find such points of view as these put into perspective among definitely technical problems. Twenty-four well-known psychologists have contributed to the volume, most of them concerned with expounding and vindicating their own views. There is a preponderance of American writers, but the German and Russian workers are fairly well represented and the rest of Europe not overlooked. Apart from its value as a survey of contemporary psychological controversy, however, the book is worth possessing for several of the individual essays. G. S. Brett and John Dewey, for instance, have made distinguished contributions which are only semi-partisan in character and possess permanent value.

In *The Mind and Its Body* Mr. Fox vigorously makes hay of some of the untested assumptions that orthodox psychology harbours and allows to become fixed in popular opinion. He is aided by such recent work as Lashley's, which seems to upset most of the current working hypotheses about learning, without putting anything simple and definite in their place. It is his excellent summary of such work as this, and his indication of what it implies for psychological theory, which constitute the chief value of his book. His constructive work is much less convincing. For one thing the book is too brief for the amount of ground it covers, and Mr. Fox's vigorous and confident statement of his heterodox views on technical questions (for instance on instinct and fatigue) must for many people be seriously misleading. Had they been given the more detailed and laborious statement they needed we should have had several books instead of one, and none of them so stimulating as this.

The Nervous Temperament, a brief report from the Industrial Health Research Board, comes as a relief from 'psychologies.' It describes the diagnosis of psychoneurotic conditions among industrial workers and provides evidence of the extremely wide incidence of these troubles. In this report, as in all psychological work, the difficulty (completely ignored by popularisers) of getting simple tests and clear-cut statistical results is very apparent. Yet the work is convincing. The methods of diagnosis are noticeably sensible. The authors imply no theory of the ultimate causation of

the neuroses, and they avoid the dangerous question of normality and the identification (too often implied by psychologists) of the abnormal with the subnormal. One need not commit oneself to belief in some hypothetical 'normality' in order to agree that what they call 'symptoms' are certainly undesirable. In short the work shows what can be done in psychology without dubious assumptions or presumptuous cultural implications.

The three books go to show how far psychology is from being a unified science, how inappropriate it is as a weapon for attacking philosophical views that you object to (it will be just as useful to your opponent), and how valuable some of its conceptions and methods may be as tools for dealing with specific problems.

D.W.H.

FELO DE SE?

WHAT WOULD BE THE CHARACTER OF A NEW WAR?
An Enquiry of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (P. S. King,
16/- net).

THE DRAGON'S TEETH by Major-General J. F. C. Fuller
(Constable, 10/- net).

THEY THAT TAKE THE SWORD by Esmé Wingfield-Stratford (Routledge, 12/6d. net).

THE UNSEEN ASSASSINS by Norman Angell (Hamish Hamilton, 7/6d. net).

We may as well be frank. The chances of our organising permanent peace before the next war comes are now practically *nil*. The Disarmament Conference will have disarmed nobody. Not one armed power that has sent a delegation, with the exception of Soviet Russia, has shown any serious desire to initiate disarmament on a general scale. The League of Nations, not through the inability of its officials but because of the dishonourable cowardice of the world's leading statesmen, has conspicuously failed to stop a war waged by one member state upon another, and there can no longer be any pretence that it affords the slightest