the mind; so that obsessive neurones are built up upon the anxiety of the first danger-situations.

To return to the point: I think that the child's complex, almost greedy, collection and accumulation of material (including knowledge as a substance) is based, among other things which need not be mentioned here, upon its ever-renewed attempt (a) to go hold of 'good' substances and objects (ultimately, 'good' talk, 'good' money, a 'good' penis and 'good' children) and wish they help to paralyse the action of the 'bad' objects and substances inside its body; and (b) to obtain sufficient reserves inside itself to be able to resist attacks made upon it by its external objects, and if necessary, to restore to its mother's body, or rather, to its objects, what it has stolen from them. Since its endeavours to do this by means of obsessive actions are continually being disturbed by events of anxiety from many other sources (for instance, its doubt whether what it has just taken into itself is really 'good' and whether what it has cut out was really the 'bad' part of its inside; or its fear that it is putting more material into itself than it has once before been guilty of robbing its mother's body), we can understand why it is under a constant obligation to repeat its attempts and how that obligation is in part responsible for the compulsive character of its behavior.

In the present case we have already seen how, in its properties as the influence of the child's ferocious and phantastic super-ego—ultimately, that is, his own sadistic—was diminished, the mechanism which we have recognized as psychotic and which gave rise to the intellectual inhibitions, lost their effectiveness. A diminution of this kind is the severity of the super-ego seems to me to weaken the mechanisms of intellectual inhibition which are of the obsessive-compulsive type as well. If this is so, then it would show that the process of excessively strong early anxiety-situations and the predominance of a threatening super-ego derived from the first stages of its formation are fundamental factors, not only in the genesis of the psychosis, but in the production of disturbances of ego-development and intellectual inhibitions.


CHARACTER FORMATION AND THE PHOBIAS OF CHILDHOOD

BY

WILHELM REICH

VIENNA

In our clinical experience we are constantly called upon to deal with the problem of what Freud has named 'the narcissistic barrier'. To this we mean in psycho-analysis all those difficulties which the patient's narcissism opposes to our efforts. Unless we have a clear theoretical comprehension of this mechanism, to which we attach the term 'narcissistic barrier', we shall have considerable difficulty in finding the way to overcome it. Protected as we are against any increasing therapeutic optimism by the bitter experiences of our work and the efforts it demands, we are justified in the view that it is just these therapeutic difficulties which make it possible to formulate the most valuable and fruitful problems in scientific psychology. In fact therapeutic activity presupposes an understanding of psychological movement and dynamic; and in this case also we are compelled, owing to the problem in technique offered by this 'narcissistic barrier', to undertake the study of characterological reactions.

In two papers ('Über Charakteranalyse' and 'Der grünliche semantische Chancen') I have attempted a theoretical discussion of the problems involved; though thorough substantiation of any views by clinical case-material had to be omitted owing to lack of space. In the following paper I hope in part to develop further the general theoretical formulations of the above-mentioned papers, while at the same time illustrating them with clinical material.

The main idea of these papers was as follows: that in our practice we become aware of the narcissistic barrier as a sort of 'armour' or ' mask' of defense, against which our interpretations and therapeutic efforts failed, unless we are able to break up this narcissistic defense by means of analysis and interpretation of its protective mode of action. Further, that this narcissistic defense represents an expression, which has been definitely formed and permanently crystallized in the psychological structure, of a narcissistic defense. Finally, that this defense finds formal expression in a specific mode of reaction on the part of the patient, which is independent of the manner of the represented
material to be defended. In addition to the familiar resistances which are assembled against the discovery of every fresh piece of unconscious material, there is further a constant factor of a formal nature, which proceeds from the character of the patient. In view of its origin this constant formal resistance was named 'character resistance'; and the following is a brief summary of our conclusions concerning it:—

(1) The expression of character resistance does not vary with the material which is being produced, but is typical and constant, taking the form of a general attitude, manner of speech, gait, affection, and peculiar ways of behaving. (Smiling, meering, precise or confused speech, special types of politeness or of aggressiveness, etc.)

(2) In regard to character resistance the significant thing is not what the patient says and does, but how he speaks and acts, not what he reveals in his dreams, but how he returns, distorts and disguises this material.

(3) Character resistance remains constant in type for one patient, in spite of varying material. Different characters produce the same material in different ways. For instance, positive father-transference is expressed and resisted in one way by the female hysterics, in quite another by the female obsessional. In the former case we shall probably have anxiety, in the latter aggressiveness.

(4) Character resistance, though it finds a purely formal expression, is, nevertheless, just as susceptible to resolution by analysis as a neurotic symptom, and can, like the latter, be traced back to infantile experiences and instinctual interests.

(5) At the appropriate moment the character of the patient becomes a resistance; that is to say that in ordinary life character plays a part similar to that played by resistance in treatment—it is a protective mechanism in the mind. Accordingly we speak of the characterological defense of the ego against the external world and the id.

(6) If we trace the formation of character back into early childhood, we find that it was the product of similar causes, and served similar ends to those which stimulate character resistance in analytic situations of the moment. The appearance of character as resistance in analysis reflects its infantile origins. And those apparently isolated situations which character resistance brings about in analysis

*In realizing this, we are enabled to include the purely formal within the sphere of psychic analysis, which has hitherto been mainly accepted with matter or content.

CHARACTER FORMATION AND PHOBIAS OF CHILDHOOD

We proceed to recapitulate the situations which in childhood instituted the process of character formation.

(2) Thus we have as character resistance a combination of defensive function with the transference of infantile relations to the environment.

(3) From the economic point of view, both character in daily life and character resistance in analysis serve the purpose of avoiding pain, of establishing and maintaining psychological (through possibly amicable) equilibrium, and finally, the absorption of that quantity of instinctual energy which has undergone or has escaped repression. One of its main functions is the binding of free-floating anxiety, or—the same thing regarded from another angle—the release of dammed-up psychic energy.

(4) In character, as in neurotic symptoms, the past, the infantile, is conserved; they live and are effective in the present.

(5) Thus we see that the consistent resolution of character resistances is bound to give direct access to the central infantile conflict.

These three propositions on the subject of character are the result of experience gleaned from about twenty specially studied cases. I shall now proceed to demonstrate how in one individual case characterological behaviour was derived from the experiences of childhood, and how this behaviour developed into a resistance. In doing so, I shall follow the path which led from the analysis of character resistance to its origin in certain definite infantile situations.

A man, aged thirty-five years, came for analysis on account of psychosomatic symptoms. He was married, and his marriage problems were the subject of our analysis. The patient began his analysis with unusually quick understanding and skill, so that after quite a short time a theoretical exploration of his marriage difficulties could be arrived at by reference to the usual psychogenetic conflicts of the Oedipus situation. We will pass over the material concerning the relation between his wife and his mother, his sisters and his father, which, though interesting in themselves, contribute nothing now. We will concentrate rather on the delineation of his behaviour, and the relation of this behaviour to his infantile conflicts, and to the type of resistance which he showed during treatment.

The external appearance of the patient was prepossessing: he was of medium height, and his bearing was reserved and dignified, serious and somewhat haughtily. Particularly noticeable was his slow,
deliberate and dignified gait. It took him quite a considerable time
to enter the door and cross the room to the sofa; it was quite obvious
that he was evading (or controlling) any kind of haste or excitement.
His speech was well ordered and deliberate, quiet and dignified,
occasionally he would interrupt its course with a sudden emphatic
"Yes!", throwing out both his arms as he said it; after which he
would pass one hand across his forehead. He used to sit calmly on
the sofa, one leg crossed over the other.

There was little or no variation in this calmness and dignity, even
when he was speaking of delicate subjects such as are usually liable
to be wounding to the patient's sensibilities. When, at the end of a
twenty days' analysis, he spoke of his relation to his specially loved
mother, it was obvious that he increased the dignity of his manner,
in order to control the excitement which was mastering him. In spite
of his urging him not to mind, but to give free course to his feeling,
he maintained this attitude and his calm manner of speech. In fact
one day, when tears came into his eyes and his voice actually [717,13]
failed, the movement with which he put his handkerchief to his eyes
was, nevertheless, so calm and dignified as ever.

So much was already clear: his behaviour, whatever its origin,
guarded him against any too violent disturbance in his analysis and
protected him against an emotional outbreak. His character stood
in the way of the free development of analytical experience—d [717,13]
he already became a resistance.

When I asked him soon after the occasion when I had preserved
his emotion, what his impression was of this particular analytical
situation, he replied calmly that it was certainly very interesting, but
it had not moved him very deeply—the tears had just escaped from
his eyes, and this had caused him considerable embarrassment. His
expression of the necessity for such emotional outbreaks and the
value was needless. His resistance was visibly strengthened, and his
communications became superficial. His manner on the other hand
was still further emphasized; he became even more dignified, calm
and quiet.

It may have been by the nearest chance that one day the term
"lordly" came into my mind in connection with his behaviour. I told
him that he was acting as if he were an English lord, and that this
must surely have its origin in his youth and childhood. I showed him
to him the defensive function at the moment of his "lordliness". It
thereupon produced the most important item of his private lord-

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1. As a child he had refused to believe that he could be the
son of the small insignificant Jewish shopkeeper that his father was;
he must be, he thought, of English origin. He had heard in childhood
that his grandmother had had an affair with a real English lord and
he imagined his mother to be half English. In his dreams of the future
he phantasy that some day he would go as ambassador to England
and played a predominant part.

His "lordly" bearing thus expressed —
(1) That he was not related to his despised father (father-hate).
(2) That he was the true son of his mother, who had English blood;
and
(3) His ego-ideal, that of getting beyond the narrow environment
of a lower middle-class family.

This discovery of the constituents of his behaviour caused a con-
siderable modification in his attitude. But it was not yet clear what
involuntary trends were being defended by it.

As we pursued the investigation of his "lordly" behaviour, it
became clear that this was closely connected with another peculiarity
of his character which caused so much difficulty in his analysis: this
was his tendency to decide his fellow-men and to take pleasure in their
narrowness. His scorn was the result of his elevated position as a
"lord", but at the same time it served to gratify his sadistic impulses,
which were particularly strong. As a matter of fact he had already
told me that at puberty he had indulged in a wealth of sadistic phan-
tasies. But he had only told me this. He began to experience them
only when we began to track them down in their present-day form—
in his tendency to scoff. The "controlled", manner demanded by his
position as a "lord", protected him from going too far in finding sadistic
gratification in scoffing. His sadistic phantasies were not repressed,
but were gratified by his scorn, and he was defended against them by
his position as "lord". Thus his haughty behaviour had exactly the
same structure as a symptom: it served as a defence against an
involuntary trend, while at the same time providing gratification for it.

There was no doubt that he had, by means of this defence, been able
to avoid having to repress all his sadism; that is to say, by means
of the characterological elaboration of his sadism into hauteur. Had
the circumstances been different, the slight fear of bungling which he
had would probably have developed into a regular phobia.

The "lord" phantasy had begun in his fourth year. He had
realised the necessity for self-control somewhat later, from fear of his
father. To this was added a very important motive for the control of his aggressive impulse, that of a counter-identification with his father. The latter used constantly to quarrel with his mother and make an uproar, and the boy set before himself the ideal of being as like his father, but the exact opposite, corresponding to the phantasy: ‘If I were my mother’s husband, I would treat her quite differently; I would be kind and control my annoyance at her deficiencies.’ This counter-identification was thus completely under the influence of his Oedipus complex—love of his mother and hate of his father.

Dreaminess and self-constraint concealing active sadistic phantasies characterized him as a boy, and represented the ‘lord’ phantasy. In puberty he made an intense homosexual object-choice in the place of a teacher, which ended in an identification. This teacher was, moreover, the very essence of a lord, dignified, calm, self-restrained, seduliously dressed. This identification began with imitation of his clothes. Other identifications ceased, and at about fourteen years of age his character, as we had to deal with in analysis, was fully formed. It was no longer a mere ‘lord phantasy’; he was a ‘lord’ in his actual behaviour.

There was, moreover, a special reason for a realization of his phantasy in his behaviour at this particular age. The patient had never consciously masturbed during puberty. His castration anxiety, which was expressed in a number of hypochondriacal fears, was rationalized as follows: ‘A dignified person doesn’t do such things.’ His position as a ‘lord’ was thus also a protection against the desire to masturbate.

As a ‘lord’ he felt himself superior to all men, and was in a position to scorn them. In analysis, however, he had soon to yield to the realization that his scorn was superficially a compensation for his feelings of inferiority, just as indeed all his ‘lordliness’ concealed a sense of inferiority due to his lowly origin. The deeper significance of his scorn lay, however, in the fact that it was a substitute for homoerotic relations. He specially scoffed at men who attracted him: he did not repress himself with others. Snobbing—sadistic activity—homoerotic flirtation. In his ‘lordliness’ were united sadistic and homosexual object-choice on the one hand, with, on the other hand, their opposite—dignified self-restraint.

* Cf. here my investigations concerning identification as regards boys in Der wcshafliche Charakter, Jnt. Pla. Verlag, 1914.

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During analysis, the patient’s ‘lordly’ bearing became intensified with every fresh advance into the unconscious. As time went on, however, these defensive reactions weakened, while his behaviour in everyday life underwent modification, but without ever losing its essential character.

The analysis of his ‘lordliness’ led directly to the resolution of the chief situations of conflict in his childhood and puberty. His pathogenic defences were thus attacked from both sides: through his memories, dreams and other communications—here with little expression of emotion—and through his character, his ‘lordliness’, which was bound up with his aggressive effects.

The Characterological Elaboration of the Childish Phobia

A considerable amount of castration anxiety was included in this display of infantile behaviour. The history of the connection between the two things indicated an end-product of a childish phobia, concerning which little has hitherto been known. Between the ages of about three to six years the patient suffered from a very severe phobia of mice. As to the content of this phobia, it suffices to say that it constituted a working-out of his feminine attitude to his father as a passive reaction to his castration anxiety. Connected with this was a typical masturbation anxiety. Now as the boy’s ‘lord’ phantasy developed into ‘lordly’ behaviour, so his phobia decreased. Later there only remained a trace of anxiety just before he went to bed.

During analysis, with the resolution of his ‘lordly’ behaviour, there arose again, and moreover, with emotion, his phobia of mice and his castration anxiety. It was thus evident that a part of the libido involved in his childish phobia, or alternatively, the anxiety, had been transferred to and elaborated in his characterological behaviour.

We are aware of course of the process by which infantile demands and anxieties are transformed into character-traits: the resolution of a phobia through the utilization of a special type of defence against the external world and against anxiety, determined in accordance with the structure of the instinctual trends involved, is a particular instance of this process. In our case it was a dignified attitude which served to bind infantile anxiety. Another typical case is the development of a childish phobia, or indeed of simpler manifestations of castration anxiety, into a passive feminine attitude, expressed perhaps in terms of exaggerated, stereotyped politeness. Such politeness may
become during treatment a character resistance which is frequently very difficult to overcome.

The following case is cited as a further illustration of the transformation of a phobia into a characterological manifestation of personality.

An emotional neurosis displayed in addition to his symptoms a remarkable and absolute suppression of affect. He was inaccessible to both pleasure and pain, a living machine. During analysis, his suppression of affect was revealed as being in the first place a defense against his extreme sadness. He had indeed in adult life entertained sadistic phantasies, but they were abandoned and looked upon. One is inclined to think that there must be, as motive for this defense, a corresponding intense narcissistic anxiety, although this was not in itself apparent. Through analysis we were able to trace back this suppression of affect to the very day of its origin.

This patient had likewise suffered from the usual childhood phobia, in his case, of horses and snakes. Up to his sixth year of age he had had anxiety dreams practically every night accompanied by fear moderatus. Most frequently he dreamed that a horse bit off some of his fingers (motoralia—narcissistic defense) the dream being associated with intense anxiety. One day he resolved that he would not be afraid again: we will return to this remarkable resolution, and its next horse dream, in which he again had a finger bitten off, was accompanied by an anxiety at all.

At the moment at which the suppression of all affect was achieved, the phobia was resolved. Only in this period after puberty did anxiety dreams occasionally recur.

Now so regards his remarkable decision to feel no more fear: we were not able to explain completely the dynamic processes involved, but we may remark that his life was directed almost exclusively by means of such resolutions. Nothing could be done without special resolutions. This capacity to make resolutions was the product of his anal obstinacy and of the extraordinarily severe demands of his parents that he should control himself, which he had adopted as his own. His anal obstinacy and the dynamic basis for his suppression of affect, which, among much else, represented a general 'Got vor Berichter' attitude to the whole external world. When the parents had been under treatment for six months, it came out for the first time that, every day before he went to bed, he told the poisoner how he planned to make himself ill, and to protect his character formation and phobias of childhood

character formation and phobias of childhood

character formation and phobias of childhood

a his analysis. His suppression of affect could not have found better verbal expression.

Hence the chief constituents of this suppression of affect were: his anal obstinacy, and his reaction against sadness. This defensive reaction served to bind not only his sadistic energy, but also his earliest childhood anxiety (the anxiety of damned-up libido plus separation anxiety). Only when we had worked through this defensive reaction, through a mass of the most various repressions and reaction formations, did we come up against his intense genital incest wishes.

While the development of a phobia is a sign that the ego has been too weak to obtain control over certain libidinal stirrings, the development of a character-traits or of a typical attitude, at the expense of a phobia, indicates a strengthening of the ego in the form of a constant defense against the id and the external world. If the phobia implies a splitting of the personality, then the development of a character-trait involves a unifying of the individuality. It is a synthesizing reaction in the part of the ego to a contradiction in the personality which, as a permanent condition, is intolerable.

In spin of the opposite nature of a phobia and the subsequent character-development, the fundamental motive in the phobia is found in the character-trait. The dignity of our 'non', the suppression of affect in our observational neurotics, the passiveness of the passive winsome character—all these are in fact just as much attitudes of resistance as were the preceding phobias.

The ego, in building up this defense, succeeds in strengthening itself to a certain extent, but at the same time it suffers some impairment of its capacity for action and freedom of movement. And the more this defense injurs the capacity for future sexual experience, the greater is its limitation, and the nearer does its structure approach to that of a neurotic, while at the same time the greater does the probability become that there will be in the future a fresh breakdown of the pervious state. When a neurotic illness develops later, the old phobia breaks through again, the characterologic elaboration proving insufficient to counteract the damned-up libidinal excitation and the anxiety caused by the damned-up libido. We may therefore say that in a typical neurotic illness the following phases may be distinguished:

1) Indicative conflict between libidinal excitation and frustration.

[An obscure phrase of refusal to surrender.—Tr.]
(a) Relief through repression of the excitation (the ego strengthens itself).

(b) Partial breach in the expression—phobia (the ego weakens).

Resolution of the phobia by the formation of a new character-trait (the ego strengthens itself).

(c) The conflict of duty (or an equivalent): inadequacy of a characterological defense.

(d) Re-establishment of the old phobia or a symptomatic equivalent.

(e) Renewed attempt of the ego to overcome the phobia by means of a characterological subversion of the associated anxiety.

Among the adult patients who come to us for treatment, two types may be easily distinguished: those in the breakdown phase (phase I), in whom an old symptom now crops as a symptom the original symptom type of reaction (the renewed development of a phobia, etc.); and those who have already reached the reductive phase (phase II), i.e., whose ego has already begun to succeed in incorporating its symptom. A repressed compulsion to scrawl things, for instance, which has become troublesome, becomes less tormenting when it is subject, with the consent of his whole personality, succeeds in evoking a ritual of tics, which can be so distributed throughout the activites of his daily life as to be of a compulsive character to note but be trained away. By this means an appearance of self-care is obtained, but the distribution and leveling of symptoms limits capacity in action to less than did the circumstances, and the person now requires treatment, not an account of a troublesome symptom, but an account of a general disturbance in his capacity for work, lot of pleasures in life, and the like. There is thus a constant struggle between the ego and its neurotic symptoms, both of whose end-points consist in symptom formation and symptom incorporation. Every symptom incorporation is, however, associated with a characterological change of greater or lesser significance. These latter inclusions of symptoms within the ego are simply recapitalizations of those important processes in childhood by which the transformation of a childish phobia into a character-trait was partly or wholly accomplished.

We have dealt here with the phobia because it is the most interesting and, from the point of view of libido economy, the most important expression of a disturbance in the unity of the personality. For its processes which I have described may take place in connection with any anxiety occurring in early childhood; for example, a child's fear of a brutal father, well-founded in reality, may result in persistent
in spite of being made conscious, not sufficiently invested with meaning to be of therapeutic value.

It is then evident that a single unconscious, instinctive process may be recorded and expressed in duplques: in what the individual says and does, and in the way in which he speaks and acts. It is sufficiently interesting to be recorded that the analysis of the 'where' leaves the 'how' uninvolved, in spite of the unity of matter and form; that the 'how' proves to be the hiding-place of similar psychological material to has apparently already been resolved or made conscious in the 'what'; and that finally the analysis of the 'how' in of particular efficacy is revealing the associated affects. This is owing to the grievously disturbed sense of narcissistic equilibrium involved in the analysis and interpretation of characterological attitudes.

SHORTEST COMMUNICATION
CERTAIN REACTION-FORMATIONS AGAINST ORAL IMPULSES

I

Abraham states that psycho-analysis of neurotic cases enable us to take an early preanarchic stage of libido-organization.

That the early Hebrews realized such a step, and provided against the possibility of a relapse into it, can be similarly inferred from the strict Moslem injunction against the eating of blood.

Moreover ye shall eat no manner of blood whether it be of fowl or of beast, in any of your dwellings (Leviticus xvi., 19).

I will set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people (Leviticus xvii., 14).

Blood is equated with life:

For the life of all flesh is the blood thereof (Leviticus xviii., 14).

By not eating the blood, one has circumvented incorporating life.

The strict avoidance of blood is a cardinal observation in every Jewish home to-day. Before it can be cooked, meat is always soaked in cold water for half an hour, then sprinkled with coarse salt and let stand for an equal time, to drain the blood.

II

In addition to the leavening of meat, and of equal importance in Jewish dietary procedure, is the strict avoidance of a mingling of meat and milk.

It is forbidden also to mingle any foods made from milk or meat (broth, cheese, etc.), and, further, all things which even indirectly come in contact with these foods—e.g. the dishes in which they are prepared or served; the waters in which they are washed, the bowls with which the dishes are dried, and so forth. This results, practically, in certain limitations of diet (poached chicken, for instance, is quite impossible; better is never placed on a dinner table; see if white coffee served—the milk in it rendering it taboo), and in the necessity for duplicate kitchen equipment, one set is provided for meat service, and one for dairy service.

The supposed source of this ritual separation is a law in Exodus xii., 15—

Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother's milk.
REPORTS

PARIS PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY
Fourth Quarter, 1930

October 31, 1930. Election of representatives for the Conference des psychanalystes de langue française, to be held in 1931.

Dr. Pionchon and Madame Jouve-Norvosh discussed the problem of hysterics.

Symposium meetings, for the study of clinical cases, are to be held at the house of Dr. Odier, under his direction.

Madame Marie Bertoncini made a communication on the case of a emotionally retarded patient, with an Ego-psychosis at the school level. The patient was haunted by obsessional phantasies and visual phallic wishes. Analysis had so very marked result, but a later course psychoanalytic treatment by Dr. Bond was followed by a decided improvement.

November 28, 1930. Election of Dr. Solod as honorary member.

Dr. Nachter communica a case of obsession and sexual process (auto-eroticism), which he succeeded in curing after some months of analysis.

December 19, 1930. It was decided that the Conférence des psychanalystes de langue française should be held in Paris, in June, 1931.

Dr. Laforgue: "As an emotion", History of the concept of emotion. Its role in the normal evolution of the individual. Contents with primitive thinking: auto-eroticism, self-punishment, homosexuality and the psychoses in general. Forms of ablation. Elements followed on the notion of the complex, of the anal mode, etc., and in connection with psychologica factors with the function of the anal, etc. Dr. R. Allongy, Secretary.

SWISS PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY

September 15, 1930. Dr. med. A. Klothof, Königstein: "Mental poisoning and the solution of being poisoned". Close psychological relation between the two—mutually complementary. Importance played by incest and reparation. Struggle for sadism of the mother's body—the secretions and excissions are magical substitutes providing poison for the killing of hated rivals. In the defence of love, this struggle is interpreted into the subject's own power. The struggle projected by the patient on to the symbolic representation of the mother's body. Reason why the secretions and excisions are felt as both harmful and poisonous; their acquisition and possession equated with own punishment by murderous death.

REPORTS

VIENNA PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY
Second and Third Quarter, 1930

April 9, 1930. Dr. Jenny Weintraub-Pölzl: "Retro from the analysis of a case of perversiveness".

April 9, 1930. Dr. Erik Homburger (president of the Society): "Enlightenment".

May 4, 1930. Dr. Eduard Hildmann: "The psychology of Jewish day".

May 28, 1930. Short communications:
  (a) Dr. Hildmann: "The significance of phantasms".
  (b) Dr. Stich: "A case of cardial pains".
  (c) Dr. Stich: "A case of cardial pains".
  (d) Dr. Stich: "A case of cardial pains".
  (e) Dr. Stich: "A case of cardial pains".

June 8, 1930. (a) Frau Dr. Deutsch: Impressions of the visit to America.

(b) Dr. Hartmann: Report of the Vienna Congress for Applied Psychology.

July 12, 1930. Dr. Editha Barba-Alberti: "An infantile psychosis".
November 12, 1930.

The following were elected to full membership: Dr. Otto Jakober.
Psycho-analytical investigation is in a position to provide the scientific theory of character with radically new points of view and with new results based on these. It is enabled to do this in virtue of three characteristics: its theory of unconscious mechanisms; its historical approach; its grasp of the dynamics and economics of psychic processes.

Because psycho-analysis penetrates beyond the given appearances to their nature and development and grasps the processes of the 'deep personality' in horizontal and vertical cross-section, it automatically opens the way to the ideal of the scientific study of character: a 'Theory of Genetic Types'. Such a theory would not only give us scientific understanding of human modes of behaviour, but also insight into their specific developmental history. The transfer of character-study from the category of so-called 'mental science' to 'history' is no sense to that of the natural science of psychology is, in itself, no small service.

But the clinical investigation of this field is not simple, and we need first of all to get clear as to the facts to be studied.

As is well known, psycho-analysis marked out from the start new paths of its own in character-investigation. Freud opened up a new field in his first discovery, that certain traits of character can be explained historically as modifications and developments of primitive instinctual trends caused by environmental agencies; that, for example, parsimony, pedantry, and love of order are the offspring of anal-erotic instincts. Later, Jones and Abraham in particular have

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1. Read at the Conference of the German Psycho-Analytical Society, Dresden, September, 1936.

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radically enriched characterology by tracing back character traits to their basis in infantile instinct (e.g. envy and ambition to verbal emotion). These early attempts were concerned with the exploitation of the instilled habits of isolated typical character traits. But the problems arising from everyday therapeutic practice require something more. We must decide either to attempt to understand the dynamics, economics and history of character at a whole, both generally and in its typical modifications, or to give up hope of influencing all cases, by no means rare, in which the aim must generally be the removal of the basis of reaction of a neurotic character.

Starting from the clinical fact that the character of the patient, in its fundamental aspect as a typical mode of reaction, is made to serve the resistance against uncovering the unconscious (character resistance), I have been able to show in earlier studies that this role of character during treatment mirrors its genesis. The occasion which, in treatment and in ordinary life, call up a person's typical reaction, is just those which originally conditioned his character-formation and led to the maintenance and fixation of the reaction once set up, so that it became as it were an automatic mechanism.

The main thing, then, is not the content and possibility of this or that character trait, but rather the purposeful mode of operation and genesis of the typical reaction as such. While hitherto we have chiefly been able to understand and to explain genetically the content of experience and neurotic symptoms and character traits, we are now arriving at the solution of this formal problem, the problem of the particular way in which a person experiences and in which neurotic symptoms are produced. I think we are justified in assuming that we are nearing the way toward an understanding of what may be called the fundamental trait of any personality.

Popular thought classifies human beings as hard or yielding, proud or meek, cool or warm, shrew or hot-blooded. Psycho-analysis of these different types of character can prove that they are all only different forms of answering of the ego against the danger of the external world and against the repressed instinctual demands of the id. The excessive politeness of one hides the same anxiety as functions through the harsh and sometimes brutal behaviour of another. Only
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their differing histories have determined that the one discharges, the other does not. This is the clinical psycho-analyst speaks of passive-feminine, paranoid-aggressive, obesessional-agricultural, hysterical, genital-narcissistic and other character he has laid hold, through this nondescript, of different reaction-types, in a somewhat rough scheme. What is needed now, however, is both to grasp the common nature of all character-formations as such, and also to give some account of the fundamental conditions which lead to such typical differentiations.

We propose in this paper to set forth the common factors in the formation of character, and to indicate some known differentiating mechanisms by way of examples.

II

First we must enquire what leads to character-formation. To do so, we must recall some of the properties common to all characterological reactions which I have described in detail elsewhere. Character consists in a chronic change of the ego, which may be described as a hardening. This change is the real basis of the chronic nature acquired by the reactions characteristic of a personality. Its object is the defense of the ego against external and internal dangers. When it has already become a chronic defense-formation, it strives to be called 'armour'. It clearly involves limitation of the psychic mobility of the whole person. This limitation is mitigated by non-characterological, i.e. atypical relations with the environment, which seem like communications that have remained open in an otherwise closed system. They are the 'chinks' in the 'armour' by which libidoim and other interests may be extruded and retracted, like pseudopodia, according to the situation. But the armour itself is to be pictured as flexible. Its mode of reaction follows the pleasure-pain principle throughout. In painfull situations the armour is augmented; in pleasurable ones it becomes looser. The degree of characterological mobility, the capacity of ego to open or close to the outer world according to situation, determines the difference between neurotic character-structure and one fit to cope with reality. The obsessional character with its suppression of affect, and the schizophrenic autism which lead toward catatonic rigidity, impress one as being prototypes of a psychologically rigid armour.

The characterological armour has been produced by long-continued clash between instinctual demands and the thwarting outer world, and draws its force and sustained vindication from current conflicts between

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these two. It is the expression and sum of those influences of the external world on the instinctual ego which, by aggregation and qualitative assimilation, form a historic whole. That is at once apparent when we think of such familiar character types as 'the citizen', 'the official', 'the working-man', 'the bachelor', etc. The region in which the armour is formed is the ego, precisely that border region of the personality which lies between bi-physiological instinct and the outer world. We may therefore designate it as the character of the ego.

At the beginning of its definitive formation we regularly find in analysis the conflict between genital instinct-wishes and the frustration, by reality, of these desires. Character-formation is initiated as a particular form of mastery of the Oedipus complex. The conditions which determine that the mastery shall take just this form are special ones; they are in effect specific for character. (These conditions hold good in the prevailing social situation to which infantile sexuality is subjected. Change of this situation will lead to change in the conditions of character-formation and accordingly in character-structure.)

For there are also other ways of dealing with the complex, though not important and not determining to the total future personality, such as simple repression or formation of an infantile neurosis. Consideration of these conditions shows their common feature extremely intense genital wishes and an ego as yet relatively weak, which first of all was protected from punishment by means of repression. The repression leads to a damming-up of impulses, and as the result of this the repressed instincts threaten to break through the simple repression. That leads to a change in the ego, such as the formation of attitudes of apprehensive avoidance, which may be summed up under the term aloneness. Though not yet constituting a characterological trait, but only a tendency in that direction, this nevertheless has consequences which are important for character formation. Aloneness, or a similar ego-attitude, strengthens at the same time as it limits the ego; for it defends the latter from dangerous situations which tend to call up the repressed.

But it appears that this first change in the ego, let us say aloneness, does not suffice to master instinct; on the contrary it leads readily to development of anxiety and is a regular basic attitude underlying neurotic phobia. To maintain the repression, a further change in the ego is necessary: the repressions must be firmly cemented, the ego must harden and the defense must assume an established, automatic character. And as the parallel development of instinctive anxiety represents a
constant threat to the repression, as in anxiety the repressed sex expression, as moreover anxiety itself threatens to weaken the ego, defense against anxiety must also be formed. The fundamental motive behind all these measures taken by the ego is in the last resort fear of punishment, conscious or unconscious, a fear which is of course kindled afresh each day by the current real behavior of parents and teachers. We have the apparent paradox that out of anxiety the child tries also to get rid of anxiety.

The hardening of the ego necessary from the point of view of libidinal economics is effected by three main processes:

The ego identifies itself with the reality which frustrates desire, in the person of the principal agent of frustration.

It directs against itself the aggression which it mobilizes against the frustrating person and which itself produces anxiety.

It forms reactive attitudes against the genital impulses, by taking their energy from the id and employing it in its own interest.

The first process fills the defensive shell with significant content. (The suppression of fear of an obsessional patient meant: 'I must control myself, as my father was always preaching,' but also, 'I must secure my pleasure, and indurate myself against my father.')

The second process binds perhaps the most important portion of aggressive energy, walls up some of the motor-energy and thus creates the element of inhibition in the character.

The third withdraws certain quantities of libido from the repressed libidinal impulses, so that they are less able to force their way through. This change is later not only nullified but reversed by the increase of the remaining energy-cathexes consequent upon limitation of motor activity and of capacity for satisfaction.

The armoring of the ego is therefore induced by fear of punishment at the expense, in energy, of the id, and with a content constituted by the prohibitions and the model of the educator. Only thus can character-formation solve its economic problem of reducing the pressure of the repressed and of strengthening the ego over and above this. But the whole process also has a reverse side. If the internal results of the defence are, at least for a time, successful, it involves at the same time a more or less extensive exclusion both of external instinct-stimuli and of further educational influences. This does not necessarily preclude a superficial submission, apart from gross cases of development along lines of defense. Moreover, we must not overlook that superficial submission, such as that shown by the

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passive-feminine character, may be combined with adamantine inner resistance. It should be emphasized here that the defensive armour is formed in the one case on the surface, and in the other in the depths of the personality. In the latter case what is visible is not the real but the ostensible personality. As example of surface armouring I may quote the obsessional character, and its suppression of affect, and the paranoid-aggressive character; the hysterical character exemplifies the deep defense. The depth of the defense depends upon conditions of regression and fixation which cannot be more fully discussed here, and forms one of the detailed questions of the problem of character-differentiation.

III

If on the one hand the characterological armour is a consequence and specific mode of resolution of the infantile libido-conflict, on the other it constitutes in a majority of cases, under the conditions which rate character-formation in civilized communities such as ours, a foundation for later neurotic conflicts and for neuroses expressed in symptoms; it becomes the basis of reaction of the neurotic character. Having described elsewhere 1 in detail the process of exacerbation of the basic mode of neurotic reaction into neurosis expressed in symptoms, I give here a summary only.

A characteristic structure of the personality which does not permit the establishment of an ordered sexual economy is the preliminary condition of a later neurotic illness. Thus the main cause of illness is not to be sought in the Oedipus-complex itself, but in the manner in which it is resolved. But since this is itself determined in a far-reaching way by the character of the family-conflict (personality of fear of punishment, breadth of bounds set to satisfaction of instinct, character of parents, etc.), it is in the last resort the development of the ego of the small child up to the Oedipus phase and within it which determines his path either to neurasthenia or to an ordered sexual economy as basis of social and sexual potency.

What marks the basic reaction of the neurotic character is that it goes too far and lets the ego become so rigid that it cannot later achieve an ordered sexual life and sexual experience. This prevents the unconscious instinctual drives from discharging any energy and brings about not only the permanence, but the constant increase of the

dumm-ind up sexuality. Its first consequence is seen in a continual growth of characterological reaction-formation against sexual demands, formations which take shape in connection with present conflicts in important situations in life. Thus, as in a regular cycle, the dumm-ind up is increased, and this in turn leads to new reaction-formation, quite the manner as the phobia to a phobia. But the pressure increases faster than the growth of the defensive armour, until at last the reaction-formation is no longer equal to the psychic tension. Now the repressed sexual wishes begin to break through, but are at once warded off by symptom-formation. (Formation of a phobia or of its equivalent.)

In this neurotic process the various defence positions of the ego overlap and interpenetrate one another. We then find side by side in the cross-section of the personality characterological reactions which belong historically to different periods of development. In the phase of final collapse of the ego, this cross-section resembles a tract of land after a volcanic eruption which has jumbled together rocks of different geological strata. But in this confusion one soon finds the leading motive and principal mechanism of all characterological reactions, which, once observed and understood, lend directly to the causal analysis of conflict.

IV

What distinctive conditions can we already recognize today for the establishment of a healthy defensive armour as against a pathological one? Our investigation of character-formation remained sterile theory as long as we do not give some concrete answer which will supply clues for education. The answer is certainly one which, in our present sexual dispensation, will embarrass those educators who wish to train healthy human beings.

In the first place, we must again emphasize the fact that character-formation does not depend upon the mere existence of the clash of instinct and frustration, but upon the way in which this occurs, the time at which the character-forming conflicts set in, and the instinct concerned.

With a view to preliminary orientation let us arrange the multitude of conditions in a scheme. We shall then have before us the following possibilities in principle.

The result of the process of character-formation depends upon:

The time at which instinct meets with frustration; the quantity and intensity of the frustration; the instincts which experience the

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central frustration; the relations of inhabition to frustration; the act of the principal frustrating person; the inconsistencies in the frustration itself.

The aim of a future prophylaxis of the neuroses can only be the creation of such characters as can give the ego sufficient hold against external and internal forces, while allowing the sexual and social freedom of movement necessary for the psychic economy. Therefore we must first understand the essential consequence of every frustration of a gratification of the child's instincts.

Every frustration of the kind produced by current modes of training causes a withdrawal of thirsts into the ego and thus a reinforcement of secondary narcissism. That means a characterological change of the ego in the direction of increase of narcissistic senstiveness, which may find expression as obsessional and increased predisposition to anxiety. Where the frustrating person is loved, as is generally the case, an ambivalent attitude is first developed toward him (or her), which then passes into an identification. The child assimilates, together with the frustration, certain character traits of the frustrating person; just those traits, indeed, which are directed against the instinct. The essential result, as far as the instinct is concerned, is its repression.

But the characterological effect of the frustration varies according to the moment at which it impinges on the instinct. At the beginning of instinct-development, frustration effects only too thorough a repression; the conquest is indeed complete, but the instinct is not now available either for sublimation or for conscious satisfaction. Too early repression of, say, anal-eccitation injures the development of the anal sublimations and prepares the way for serious anal reaction-formation. Characterologically more important is the exclusion of instincts from the structure of the personality, with damaging effects upon activity as a whole. One sees this exemplified in children whose aggressive and motor pleasures were inhibited too early.

At the height of its development an instinct cannot any longer be made to undergo complete repression. In this case frustration can only establish an insurmountable conflict between prohibition and impulse; when an instinct undergoes sudden and unaccompanied frustration at the height of its development, the ground is prepared for the growth of an "instinct-hidden" personality. The child does not fully accept the

* Cf. Reich: Der durch das Character, Internationaler Psychoanalytischer Verlag, Vienna, 1925.
prohibition, but nevertheless experiences a strong sense of guilt, which then intensifies the sway of impulse to the point of obsession. Thus is psychopathology of this type we encounter an enmeshed character structure, which is practically the opposite of the reaction we have postulated as able to meet inner and outer requirements. It is characteristic of the 'instinct-ridden' person that instinct itself (aedic impulse, chiefly)—and not reaction-formation against instinct—is employed in defense against imaginary, situations of danger, including danger arising from instinct. Since in consequence of the disordered genital structure, the libido economy is devastated, the dammed-up sexuality increases the anxiety and with it the characterological reactions in a way that leads on occasion to excesses of every kind.

The opposite of the 'instinct-ridden' is the inhibited character, a type which includes the hysterical, obsession-neurosis and depressive characters. Just as the development of the first is distinguished by the antithesis between fully developed instinct and sudden frustration at its smith, so the inhibited character is marked by the heaping-up of frustrations and other inhibiting effects of education from the beginning until the end of instinct-development.

The characterological armour corresponds to this: it tends to restrict, limits the individual's psychic mobility considerably, forms the basis for depressive conditions and obsessional symptoms (obsessional agGRA-

The mode of the latter sexual life depends most largely upon the sex and character of the person who exerted most influence in education.

We can reduce the very complicated influence of society on the child to the fact that, in an educational organization based on families, it is essentially the father and the mother who act as the chief reactive organs of social influence. The sexual attitude, generally unconscious, of parents to their children ensures that each child is more loved and spoiled, i.e. less restricted and educated, by the parent of the opposite sex. Therefore it is the case of the sexual relation alone makes the parent of the same sex the chief educator. With the qualification that in the first years of life and among the mass of working people, the relation is shifted in favor of the mother as educator, we can say that the identification with the parent of the same sex is the cardinal test. Thus the daughter develops a mother-like ego and super-ego and the son develops a father-like ego and super-ego. But special contributions of the family or of the character of the parents frequently lead to

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exceptions. We may mention some typical bases of aberrant identifications.

Let us first consider the boy's position. In ordinary circumstances, having developed the simple Ego-complex, and being more loved and less frustrated by the mother than by the father, he will identify himself with the latter and will develop in the direction of masculine activity, provided the father himself shows an active-masculine character. If, however, the mother was a strict, 'masculine' person, if the most important frustrations came from her, the boy will identify himself predominantly with her. He will thus develop a mother-

Identification on a phallic or anal basis, according to the reproductive stage reached when the child received frustration occurred. From the phallic mother-identification there usually develops a phallic-sadistic character, whose masochism and sadism are directed specially against women (vendettas against the strict mother). This attitude is the characterological defense of the deeply repressed original love for the mother, which could not exist alongside with her frustrating influence and the identification with her, and therefore disappeared in disappointment. More exactly: it is translated into the characterological attitude, from which, however, it can at any time be recovered by analysis.

The mother-identification on an anal basis leads to a passive and feminine character, but towards women, not men. Such characters often form the basis of the masochistic perversion, with the pliantness of the strict woman. This character-formation serves mostly as defense against phallic wishes for the mother in childhood, which were very intense although short-lived. There is reaction-anxiety in the mother, which supports the anal identification with her. Anality is the specific erotogenic basis of this character-formation.

A passive and feminine character is a man is always due to identification with the mother. But while in the type described above, the mother, as the frustrating educator, is the object of fear evolving the attitude in question, there is a form of passive-feminine character due to excessive androgynous on the part of the father. Fear of realizing his phallic wishes made the boy renounce the masculine-unchilic line to the feminine-anal, where he identified himself with the mother and seemed a passive and feminine attitude to his father and, later, to all authority. Exaggerated politeness and obsequiousness, gentleness, and an inclination to deceptions distinguish this type, whose attitude wards of active masculine desires, and principally the repressed hatred of the
father. Along with his de facto feminine-passive bearing (mother-identification in the ego), he has, however, identified himself in his ego-ideal with his father (father-identification in the super-ego and ego-ideal), but always remains, through lack of a phallic position, incapable of realizing this identification. He will always be feminine, while desiring to be masculine. A severe sense of inferiority, resulting from this tension between feminine ego and masculine ego-ideal, set a stamp of depression, often of objectness, on him. This receives a rational justification from the severe disturbances of potency which is always present.

Comparing this type with that of the phallic mother-identification, we note that while the phallic-narcissistic character successfully works off any feeling of inferiority, so that it only betrays its presence in the flaccid eye, the passive-feminine character bears the open impress of this feeling. The difference lies in the basic erotogenic structure; phallic libido enables the individual to compensate thoroughly for all attitudes which do not correspond to the masculine ego-ideal, while anal libido as center of the sexual structure, in the case of the man, makes such compensation impossible.

In the girl’s case, conversely, a father who does little to frustrate her is more likely to contribute to the formation of a feminine character than a strict and brutal father. A series of clinical comparisons show that the daughter of a brutal father reacts typically by forming a hard masculine character. Penis-envy, which is always at hand, is activated and takes the shape of a masculinity complex with characterological changes in the ego. In this case a bearing which is aggressively masculine and hard serves as armour against the infantile-feminine attitude to the father, which had to be repressed on account of his indomitiveness or severity. If on the other hand the father was mild and loving, the little girl would be able to retain and even develop her object-love in large measure (omitting the sexual components). Identification with the father would not be necessary. It is true that she also would usually have acquired penis-envy; but it would have remained characterologically ineffective because there was comparatively little heterosocial frustration. Thus we may see that the assertion that this or that woman has penis-envy tells us nothing. Everything depends on its characterological and symptomatic effect. The decisive fact in the case of the above type is that in the ego, a mother-identification has taken place. This expresses itself in what are called feminine character traits.

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Maintenance of this character structure requires the addition, very early in puberty, of vaginal primary, as the hiding foundation of femininity. Severe disappointments in the father or father-figures at this period can cause regression to penis-envy, stimulate the masculine identification which was lacking in childhood, activate the thumbling penis-envy and so lead to a late change of character. We see this so often in girls who repress their heterosexual wishes on moral grounds (identification with the mother and her lower middle-class morality) and thus provoke the disappointment in men which they experience. In most cases such feminine characters tend to develop a hysterical disposition. We see a perpetual advance of femininity to the object (coquetry), and a shrinking-back, with development of genital anxiety, when matters threaten to become serious (hysterical genital anxiety). The hysterical character in the woman is the defense against her own genital wishes and the masculine aggression of the object.

In our analysis we meet with the peculiar case of severe, hard mothers bringing up daughters who are characterologically neither masculine nor feminine, but who remain, or again become, childish. The mother gave the child too little love and the unconscious conflict towards the mother turned mostly to hatred, from the dangers of which the child withdrew to the oral stage of sexual development. It latter the mother in the genital stage, represses the hatred and transforms it, after assuming the oral attitude, into reactive love and a paralyzing dependency upon the mother. Such women develop a peculiar linguistic-like relative with older or married women, clinging to them as in a narcissistic fashion, tend towards passive homosexuality (if a penis- envy be formed it is castrating), let older women mother them, develop little interest in men, and even sink out all their lives by ‘baby ways’. This characterological attitude is, like every other, an armour against repressed wishes and a defense against the stimuli of the outer world. Here the character serves the oral defense, against intense late-tendencies in relation to the mother, behind which, deep down, is to be found—often only with great difficulty—the similarly repressed normal feminine attitude to the man.

So far we have merely considered the fact that the sex of the frustrating educator is of great importance in the shaping of character, and have only touched upon the educator’s character in so far as it
exerts a 'strictive' or a 'milder' influence. But the formation of the child's character also depends, in another decisive way, on the character of the parents, and this, again, is affected by special and general serial influences. Much that official psychiatry, unable to give any account of the facts, regards as inherited, is shown by sufficiently deep analysis to be the result of early identifications charged with conflict.

We do not deny that modes of reaction are laid down by heredity. Has the newly-born baby its 'character'? But we think that the environment exercises the decisive influence. It determines whether a given disposition shall be developed, strengthened, or entirely suppressed. The strongest objection to the view that character is inherent is probably provided by those cases in which analysis has shown that certain modes of reaction were practiced up to a given age, but that thereafter the subjects in question developed characterologically along altogether different lines: thus some who were at first excitable and cheerful, later became depressed; others who began by displaying motor-aggression, later became quiet and inhibited. It is, however, possible that a certain keynote of the personality is fixed at the start and scarcely changeable. No doubt the over-emphasis of hereditary factors rests upon unconscious assumptions as to the conclusions which a critique of education would draw, if the influence of the latter were estimated correctly.

This question will only be settled finally when some official authority decides to perform a mass experiment by isolating, say, 100 children of psychopathic parents immediately after birth and placing them in a uniform educational environment, with a view to comparing them later with 100 children who have remained in a psychopathic environment.

VI

A glance at the foregoing sketches of basic character-structures shows that they are all alike in being stimulated by the conflict of the Oedipus-complex, in setting these conflicts in a peculiar way, and at the same time in maintaining them for the future. We can supplement Freud's dictum, that the Oedipus-complex is destroyed by castration-anxiety, by saying that while the complex certainly disappears it re-arises in another form; it is transformed into characterological reactions which partly continue its main traits in a disguised form, partly constitute reaction-formation directed against its basic elements.

We can sum up further: the neurotic character is built up as a compromise, not only in its contents but also in its form, just as is the characterological mastery of the Oedipus complex.

symptom. It contains the infantile instinctual demand and the defense, which may belong to the same stage or to different ones; and the infantile nuclear conflict persists—transformed into formal attitudes—in automatic modes of reaction which have become permanent.

By this insight into a portion of human development we are enabled to answer a question which Freud once raised: in what form does the repressed persist?—as duplicate copy, as memory traces, or otherwise? We can now conclude, with all due caution, that those parts of infantile experience which are not elaborated characterologically are retained as memory-traces carrying an affective cathexis, whilst those which suffered the fate of characterological transformation persist as present modes of behavior. Obscure as the process may still be, this persistence as function cannot be denied, for analytical therapy is able to resolve such characterological functions again into their original constituents. We are not concerned with reasoning something undergone, as is in hysterical amnesia, but with a process which might perhaps be compared with the recovery of a chemical element from a compound. Moreover, we now understand more clearly why it is not possible to clear up the Oedipus conflict in many severe cases of character-aurotism merely by analysis of content. The conflict no longer exists at all as a present fact, and can only be recovered by analytic decomposition of the formal modes of reaction. This naturally extends our therapeutic possibilities.

What has just been said applies only to the neurotic character, in which alone the Oedipus complex persists in the form described. The genital character, the ideal healthy type, differs from the neurotic just in this, that the Oedipus conflict is not converted into characterological functions, but seized by withdrawal of energy. If the chief substance of the libido is satisfactorily invested, partly in sublimations instead of in reaction-formation), partly in genital attitudes to the object instead of pregynal and sadistic ones—i.e. if psychic interest is in the main turned to reality and real objects—there is no occasion for the formation and maintenance of the rigid chronic modes of reaction seen in neurotic characters. Thus the genital character is flexible in its mode of behavior, can as it were, "turn against itself the outer world where this is necessary, as it can completely open itself in other directions."

* C. Reich, "Der genitale und der neurotische Charakter." Forschenden Zeitschrift für Psychoanalyse, Bd. XV. 1929.
This denigration of ideal types, based on separation of dynamic processes which are specifically pathogenic from those which are specifically adapted to reality, is far from being mere idle theory. It is a conscious attempt to abstain, on this basis, a theory of psychic realism which may be in a position to propose practical ends for education. It lies with society, of course, to decide whether to make possible and promote, or to refuse the practical application of such a theory of the economics of psychic energy. Present-day society, with its anti-sexual morality and its inability to secure for the mass of its members even the most substantial minimums, is as far removed from recognizing such possibilities as it is from its practical application. That becomes clear at once when we point out beforehand that the binding of the child to the parents and the attack on infantile masturbation in the earliest years, the sexual requirements in puberty and the constraint of sexual interest within the marriage institution (sexologically justified at present) constitute just about the opposite extremes to the conditions required for the production and maintenance of a psychic economy which shall be normally sound. The prevailing regulation of sex necessarily creates the characterological basis for the non use; sexual and psychic economy excludes present-day morality, which is being defended by all available means. That is one of the memorable social conclusions which follow from the psycho-analytical study of the neurous.

VII

In individual psycho-analytical therapy, consideration of the resistances produced by the patient's character (character resistance) helps considerably towards the removal of the neurotic basis of reaction. Our therapy goes beyond casual analysis of symptoms and provides it character-analysis what, in psychotherapy, is rather permitted called 'treatment of the total personality'. But it differs essentially from other psychotherapy in changing the total personality while educationally nor in any other synthetic fashion, but solely by disturbance of the equilibria of the psychic character and by interpretation of the purposeful organization of the characterational amount. The decisive part is played in the end by the natural impulses to general pleasure and social activity which the character-neurous had hitherto only from unfulfilling. The technical process consists in this, that after a part of the characterological behaviour has been understood, it is isolated, presented to the patient and continually objectified. This...
Reports

Revised in Gausn Velshi and conducted on psycho-analytical principles. Anti-social and criminal juveniles are not only dealt with, but punished administratively or judicially; they should be treated. Some success already obtained.

P. G. Gour (Guest of the Society): "Practical work at the Medico-Psychological Institute." Among the seventy juveniles so far sent to the Institute, examined by physicians conversant with psycho-analysis and medically ordered under their direction, only a small percentage proved neuropathic.

The majority were cases of neglect. A detailed account was given of a case of thymus and an anti-social boy and his treatment and care.

June 27, 1931: (a) M. Buka-Stenenberg (Ziekenhuis); (b) Dr. H. Nadler, Professor. "(Appearing in Die psychoanalytische Zeitschrift.)"

(a) Focus Meeting.

Discussion of the organization of the forthcoming Congress. Unanimous election of Dr. Ennequin (Berlin) and Dr. Jonas (London) as Honorary Presidents.

July 7, 1931: (a) Dr. H. Schlovitz (Ziekenhuis); "Analysis of a choana sonor.

A woman patient, not amenable to begin with, but gradually changed by pedagogical measures guided by analytic insight, with the help of a change of environment and the intra-sexual tendencies of the patient, up to a point she became accessible to analysis.

(b) Focus Meeting.

Election of Members: Franz W. Zipper (Hilgen), Dr. H. Schutz (Ziekenhuis), Dr. H. Naseby (Evanston), Hans Zellinger, Secretary.

VIENNA PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY

Second Quarter, 1931

April 19, 1931: Franz Berta Borównik (Berlin; guest of the Society): "Bleakness of the Treatment of a Child aged two and a half.

April 29, 1931: Short communications:

(a) Franz K. Veri (guest of the Society): "A mental picture."

(b) Dr. H. Schlovitz: "Hospital in the Analysis of a Case.

An introductory address by Dr. Federn was followed by a paper from Dr. S. Ferenczi (Budapest; guest of the Society): "Child-analysis in the Analysis of Adults." and a concluding address by Dr. Federn.

May 20, 1931: Short communications:

(a) Dr. Federn: "Message from Prague to the Society's celebration of his seventy-fifth birthday. Congratulations to"
REPORTS

1. Dissemination of psycho-analytic therapy. (For Members of the Society and of the 'Lyceum Vereeniging voor Psychoanalyse en Psycho-pathologie' only.) (Four lectures.) Lecturer: J. H. W. van Oijen.
2. Dr. G. C. Jolles: Psycho-analysis of common ailments. (For physicians only.) (Two lectures.)
3. A. H. van Oijen: Suggestion and Hypnosis in general practice. (For physicians only.) (Five lectures.)
4. J. H. W. van Oijen: Psycho-analysis of Dream. (Six lectures.)
5. Dr. P. N. Moller: Psycho-analysis of the Neurosis. (Six lectures.)
6. Dr. A. J. van der Meer: Psycho-analysis of Defences of Injurious and Persecutory. (Five lectures.)
7. J. H. W. van Oijen: Psycho-Analytical reflections on 'difficult' children. (Five lectures.)

TRAINING INSTITUTE OF THE HUNGARIAN PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY

First Quarter, 1931

1. Faux Vilmos Kover: Seminar on technique. (For training candidates only.) (Six lectures.)
2. Faux Dr. Matyi Orszag: Seminar on the analysis of children. (For practicing analysts only.) (Six lectures.)

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHO-ANALYSIS, LONDON

Annual Report of the Teachers Committee for the Year 1930-31

In October, 1930, there were seventeen candidates in the training list, sixteen of whom were actually undergoing training. During the year two candidates were added to the list, one of whom has since resigned. One candidate was withdrawn by agreement: one other candidate resigned and the training of one other candidate was suspended. In July, 1931, there remained seventeen candidates in training, two of whom were suspended. Three candidates were advanced to the stage of undertaking analysis under control. One has since withdrawn. There are now five on the list of obligatory candidates and four on the optional list.

DUTCH PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL INSTITUTE

The following courses of lectures were arranged by the Training Committee during the spring of 1931 and were given in the 'Spinozahuis.'

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[Study Circle]
10. Study Circle for Clinical Cases. (Sander Rad.)
11. Educational Study Circle. (Miller-Bruenzswig, Bernhard.)
12. Obstetric Study Circle. (Sander, Strauss.)

Second Quarter, 1931

(a) Study Courses
1. Otto Trench. 'Theory of the specific Neurons. Part I: Transformed Neurons and allied topics. (Seven lectures.)
2. Marcel Sieges: Pleasure as an aesthetic problem. (Four lectures.)
3. Sander Rad.: Dynamic and static states in nervous and creative states. (Four lectures.)
4. Wilhelm Reich: Psychology of instinct and theory of Character. (Four lectures.)
5. Karen Horney: Some Problems of Feminine Psychology. (Four lectures.)

(b) Seminars: Practical Exercises, Discussions
6. Carl Miller-Bruenzswig: Seminar on the works of Freud: Complexities. Part II. (Four seminars of two hours each.)
7. Josef Horsch: Seminar on the works of Freud: papers on Technique. (Five seminars of two hours each.)
8. Siegfried Bernhard: Seminar on practical questions of psychological pedagogy. (For advanced students.)
9. Rotten and Halse: Seminars on technique. (For training candidates only.)
10. Eting and others: Practical therapeutic exercises. (Control analysis.) (For training candidates only.)
11. Ernst Sennel: Problems of classical psycho-analytical therapy. (Illustrations, proposals, modifications of technique.) (For practising analysts.)
12. Sander Rad.: Discussion of recent publications in psycho-analysis and allied subjects. (Evenings. Two sessions of two hours each.)

(c) Study Courses
13. Study Circle for Clinical Cases. (Sander Rad.)
14. Educational Study Circle. (Miller-Bruenzswig, Bernhard.)
15. Obstetric Study Circle. (Sander, Strauss.)