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Books

THE YOUNG **FREUD**

Volume 1, The Young Freud (1856-1900), by Ernest Jones; the Hogarth Press, English price 27,6.

" HAVE been very lazy, because the moderate misery necessary for intensive work refuses to appear," wrote Freud in 1896. In his inability to work well when he was fit and happy (at any rate, in the 1890's), he was like many an artist-a comparison perhaps not inapt, for Freud's greatest work was done when his creative imagination was released from the too strict discipline of his scholastic upbringing. In the '90s he not only was seldom happy but suffered so much from "a very considerable" neurosis that "there could have



been only occasional intervals when life seemed much worth living." His suffering, and his passionate dependence on Fliess, a intellectually man intellectually his inferior, were greatest in the last three years of the century. Those were

years when, struggling to explore depths of his own unconscious, he did his most original work; and they are the climax of "The Young Freud."

This book is the first part of a three-

volume work: a record of the main facts of Freud's life and an attempt to relate his personality and experiences to the development of his ideas. Dr. Jones is well fitted to discuss the way Freud's ideas developed---to examine, for instance, his important work in neurology -because, besides being a close friend and collaborator for 40 years, he went through the same disciplines on his way to psycho-analysis. He never baulks at the task of illuminating the most abstruse ideas: the last section of the book is, in fact, an extensive and invaluable footnote to the difficult seventh chapter of The Interpretation of Dreams.

The general reader will be interested most in the chapters about Freud's personal life. Dr. Jones has drawn on much new material, including some 1500 love letters; and the story he tells of the jealous lover, quarrelling with his fiancée's family and insisting that she take his side, is so human, in the widest sense, that it disposes of any doubt about the author's ability to take a detached view of his subject.

Not meant to be popular, but absorbing all the same, this is in every wav an outstanding work. All who read it will wait impatiently for the rest of what is certain to become the authoritative biography. ---F.A.J.

POTENTIAL LEADERS

CHILDREN OF HIGH INTELLIGENCE, by G. W. Parkyn; New Zealand Council for Education Research, 18/-.

THE fact that this book, first published in 1948, has been reprinted is evidence that it has gone to a wider field of readers than is usual with the excellent productions of the New Zealand Council for Educational Research. One reason is that no such exhaustive study of the subject had been made before, either in this country or in Great

The first part of the book comprises a discussion of the concept of high in-

telligence, and of the various tests in current use to determine it. An account is then given of the data gathered from an intensive inquiry into the characteristics of New Zealand children of high intelligence. Of special interest and value here is the study of a group of 50 pupils selected in Form II in 1942 and followed up to 1947. The author next offers suggestions about the curriculum and about methods of teaching and ways in which schools of different types may be organised so that the interests of pupils of high intelligence may be better served. This naturally leads Mr. Parkyn to discuss the attitude that a democratic society should have towards such children. Democratic peoples cannot escape the fact that "leaders" do emerge, and an analysis of the qualities essential to leadership puts intellectual ability in a very high place. Children of high intelligence are therefore a valuable asset, and should be so regarded.

THE EPIC VISION

IME EPIC VISION
CHRIST RECRUCIFIED, by Nikos Kazantzakis; Bruno Cassirer, English price 15/-. THE
REFUGE, by Seaforth Mackenzie; Angus
and Robertson, N.Z. price 16/-. THE
HOUSE THAT NINO BUILT, by Giovanni
Guareschi: Victor Gollancz, English price
10 6. THAT YEW TREE'S SHADE, by
Cyrti Hare; Faber and Faber, English price
10/6.

 C^{HRIST} RECRUCIFIED Niko Kazantzakis as an unmistakably great novelist. His epic vision comprehends primitive force, bitterness and compassion, coarse realism and lyricism. In a Greek village under Turkish domination, several peasants are chosen to enact the characters in the traditional Passion play. When to the village comes a caravan of starving refugees from Turkish persecution, they are hated and rejected by the villagers, but the "Christ" and His "Apostles," influenced by their roles, espouse their sufferings, Hatred and jealousy reach their climax on Christmas Day, when a dreadful real Passion is enacted. A massive, searing book, genuinely tragic, not without artistic tact, but never contrived, Christ Recrucified is worth any ten of the polite pieces of mincing tushery England supplies nowadays.

A study in the Conrad manner, The Refuge begins with the discovery of the body of Irma Martin, a refugee ex-Communist, in Sydney Harbour, Lloyd Fitzherbert, a crime reporter, tells how e protected and married Irma, and of the emotional tensions which led to her death. The book has distinction; Mr. Mackenzie writes with intelligence and sensitivity. But his story is over-long. Its best feature is its description of war-time Sydney, including several tart pages on the American invasion.

Giovanni Guareschi's collection of

sketches about his own family is neither (continued on next page)

TRAVEL by land and sea is the general theme for the May 30 ZB Book Review session, with a little sport for good measure.

The six books for review (and the reviewers) are as follows: "Not in the lows: "Not in the Log," by Main Royal, and "Sailboat Tramp," by Tom Crichton (R. B. Goodwin); "Amazon Headhunters," by Lewis Cotlow, and "What the World Shows Me," by Per Host (A. S. Helm); North from Malaya,



by Justice William O. Dauglas (Russell 'almer); and "Farewell to Test Rugby," by Hennie Muller (Fred Allen).

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