

English Summaries

The present issue, edited by Kata Lénárd, is devoted to the problems of the relationship between psychoanalysis and neurosciences.

As leading article, we publish the Hungarian translation of the classic essay by ERIC R. KANDEL, **Biology and the Future of Psychoanalysis: A New Intellectual Framework for Psychiatry Revisited** which was originally published in *The American Journal of Psychiatry* in 1999 (156:505-524), and outlines the importance of current biological thinking about the relationship of mind to brain for the future of psychoanalysis.

After Kandel's article three original Hungarian contributions follow.

CSABA PLÉH, *Experimental and neuronal interpretations of Freud today*

The review paper starts from a presentation of the empirical testing possibilities of psychoanalysis. It surveys more in depth how the impact of desires on perceptual processes emerged in the experimental psychology of the last half century. From the first attempts of the New Look on, some eternal issues regarding the well proven effects of desires on perception has been the issue of the size of windows the effect takes place over, and whether there are active mechanisms of Ego-defense in perception as well. Contemporary theories of the cognitive unconscious are more modest than the general psychoanalytic visions. At the same time they prove the existence of non-conscious semantic and emotional processing. Neuropsychanalytic attempts during the last two decades are looking for the biological substrates of these effects. They are trying to give a neurobiological interpretation both of consciousness, emphasizing the role of coherence building neural workplaces, and for different types of non conscious processes. They abandoned the sometimes naive conceptions that tried to identify non conscious processes with sub-cortical and conscious ones with cortical phenomena.

MÁRK BÉRDI, *Freud and the Project for a scientific psychology*

The anti-vitalist Helmholtzian school made a deep impact on the young Freud, and in his early career he had been approaching psychic phenomena at this physical stance, as we would say today. He believed that the neurological foundations of the cornerstones of psychoanalysis observed by him, like repression, psychic apparatus, etc. could be specified. Freud's 'scientific psychology' in its most complete form is described in his correspondence with Wilhelm Fliess and became known as the Project after Freud's death. Although this reductionist approach was given up by Freud and the subject was never mentioned again in public, the scientific language used in the Project is present as a metaphor in his later psychoanalytic, especially in his metapsychological writings.

ZOLTÁN DANICS, *Spirit in the Neuronal Network? – The case of psychoanalysis with neuroscience*

The development of neurobiological methods and neuroimaging technics made it possible to verify and rethink the phenomena already known by the traditional psychoanalytic technique. Some of the biochemical and neuroscientific findings allow us to renew and modify the old psychoanalytic theory and practice. There are a few significant therapeutic consequences of these findings in the field of memory, attachment and mentalization. While the author welcomes the promising results in the reduction of body-mind dichotomy, he considers them critically. He also comments the successes and the limitations of neuropsychanalysis as well.

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