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SIGMUND FREUD'S MISSION. By ERICH FROMM. [*Allen and Unwin.*
120 pp. 12s. 6d.]

"GREAT fleas," we have been told, "have little fleas upon their backs to bite 'em," and great psychoanalysts have little psychoanalysts upon their books to bite 'em. Mr. Fromm bites and bites, not only Freud, but his biographer Ernest Jones, but it must be remembered—to change the metaphor—that in another famous case "the man recovered from the bite, the dog it was that died." Mr. Fromm more than once asseverates that Freud was a great man, "one of the great men and pathfinders of the human race," but almost everything which he says about Freud in between seems to prove the opposite. He succeeds in making Freud out to be a smallminded, narrow-minded, unpleasant little man, by never giving him or his biographer the benefit of any doubt. His book therefore leaves one with a nasty taste in the mouth. This is a pity because it might have been a very interesting book. There is a basis of important truth in Mr. Fromm's contention, namely, that Freud was unaware himself of how much his theory and practice were determined by his unconscious. An objective analysis of Freud and of Freud's analysis would be valuable. The trouble with Mr. Fromm is that his analysis never seems to be objective.

Anonymus, 1960a Review E. Fromm, Sigmund Freud's Mission.
An Analysis of His Personality and Influence (1959a, English),
in: Political Quarterly, Vol. 31, 1960, p. 228.