

*Fatigue: A Clinical Study.* (*Journ. of Neur. and Psycho-path.*, October, 1926.) Gillespie, R. D.

The author in this article makes a detailed study of fatigue in its clinical aspect, the work being along broad behaviouristic lines. He recognizes three clinical varieties of fatigue and discusses at some length the ætiology of its syndromes, classifying them in five divisions—constitution, auto-intoxication, excessive effort, emotion, and the psycho-analytic theories.

Symptomatology is dealt with under five groups into which his cases fall:

1. Fatigue the direct expression of a conflict.
2. Fatigue a prodromal symptom of serious mental illness.
3. Fatigue accompanying other symptoms which together make a picture of depression or of a schizophrenic psychosis.
4. Fatigue a symptomatic equivalent to a recurrent depression.
5. Fatigue a sequel of a variety of mental disorders.

Full clinical histories are given of 14 cases.

Dr. Gillespie concludes from his clinical findings that several methods of treatment can be used in dealing with the fatigue syndromes with some confidence in their foundations. He states that the principal rôle must be assigned to psychotherapy, and further recommends graded exercises, hydrotherapy and the administration of phosphates.

WM. MCWILLIAM.

*An Introductory Study of the Erotic Behaviour of Idiots.* (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, May, 1927.) Potter, H. W.

The erotic behaviour of 398 idiots was studied. Nearly three-quarters of the entire group showed the presence of erotic desires—a larger percentage of females than of males. Nearly four-fifths of the total erotic idiots were auto-erotic only. The remainder, in addition to being auto-erotic, directed their sex interests to their associates (of the same sex) as well. The erotic desire was expressed in forms of genital and pregenital eroticism and perverted eroticism, such as masturbation, mutual masturbation, rocking motions, sadomasochism, oral and aural eroticism, pederasty, cunnilingus and fellatio. Masturbation and mutual masturbation were more common among the males, rocking, oral eroticism, masochism and sadism were more common among the females.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Rôle of Syphilis in the Parkinsonian Syndrome.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, May, 1927.) Pardee, I.

There are scattered reports throughout the literature of Parkinsonian symptoms associated with general paralysis; to these the author adds his quota. He points out that the encephalitic virus has an affinity for the striate region, but that the *Spirochaeta pallida* rarely has.

He regards the question of treatment as hopeless.

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