

flagrant, and finally, despite his wife, he would bring his male partners to his home. Neurologically there was a right-sided hemi-Parkinsonianism. Relevant literature on this perversion in post-encephalitis is mentioned; also two cases of homosexuality following head injuries.

S. M. COLEMAN.

*The Epileptic Constitution.* (*L'Encéphale*, December, 1931.) Robin, Gilbert.

This long article, dealing with the conception of epileptic personality, has a definitely psycho-analytic tendency. The work of Anna Freud is mentioned in connection with her analytic studies of children. The article is extremely detailed, and contains considerable speculation supported by a good deal of well-quoted clinical observation.

The author mentions a number of reactions already fairly well established—the explosive temper; the rebelliousness and objection to authority; the peculiar affective response in terms of religiosity and over-humility; the slowness of behaviour, which he terms “viscosity”; night terrors; enuresis; and the hereditary features.

These points do more than indicate that in the epileptic personality there are features which belong to the neuropathic and to the psychopathic constitution.

W. MCC. HARROWES.

*Recurrence of Attacks of Manic-depressive Psychosis.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, November, 1931.) Pollock, H. M.

In more than half the cases there is no recurrence of sufficient severity to occasion readmission to a mental hospital. The frequency of recurrence is identical in the two sexes, and does not depend upon the particular variety of the psychosis. Patients between twenty and forty years of age on first admission have fewer recurrences than patients older or younger. The average duration of attacks in recovered cases is a little more than one year, and increases irregularly with advancing age.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*A Statistical Study of Hallucinations in the Manic-depressive Psychosis.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) Bowman, K. M., and Raymond, A. F.

A continuation of the report on delusions in the manic-depressive psychosis published in the July issue of the above-named journal. There were studied 1,009 cases; and 1,408 cases of schizophrenia and 496 of general paresis were used as controls. The most common type of hallucinations in the manic-depressive psychosis is auditory, and visual hallucinations are the next most common; the incidence in each case is similar to that found in general paresis; a similar correspondence was found in the case of delusions. In all three psychoses, there are more female cases showing hallucinations. There is a striking association between

persecutory delusions and auditory hallucinations. Intelligence, the duration of attack, the occurrence of a previous attack and alcoholic habits have little effect upon the occurrence of hallucinations.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Case of Ludwig Lewisohn.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) *Bragman, L. J.*

A contribution to the study of creative genius, in the life-history of Lewisohn, the American author. The effect of his Hebrew birth, the racial animosity which he had to face, and the unhappy marriage which he contracted, are considered. Very interesting psycho-analytic considerations are shown to be involved.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Alzheimer's Disease.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) *Lowenberg, K., and Rothschild, D.*

Two cases of this disease were studied. Both tend to throw doubt on the view that the disease is always a manifestation of premature senility. One of the patients gave birth to a healthy child several years after the onset of the mental disorder. The authors are led to the conclusion that Alzheimer's disease is really a syndrome with a multiplicity of ætiological factors. While the majority of the cases are related to atypical senile processes, there is a smaller group in which the causative agents appear to be toxic or organic diseases independent of senility.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Rigid Personality as a Factor in Psychoses.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, August, 1931.) *Muncie, W.*

The author considers "rigidity" of personality to be compounded in no fixed proportions of many factors, such as obstinacy, aggressiveness, pride, sensitiveness, a rigid code of personal ethics, an inability to make concessions, etc. He then describes five cases in which this rigidity was a prominent feature, determining certain reaction patterns and attitudes, and also bringing about certain successes. In each case the rigidity jeopardized the recovery of the patient, introducing complicating features which cast grave doubts on the diagnosis of depression as the essential process.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Thyroid Psychoses.* (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, September, 1931.) *Ingham, S. W., and Neilsen, J. M.*

The authors, after discussing the literature, describe four cases of their own in which recovery followed treatment of the thyroid condition. They consider that although fear and apprehension are the classical signs, the psychosis may simulate manic-depressive insanity in either of its phases, dementia præcox, delirium, or any toxic psychosis. Two of their four cases benefited by irradiation.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.