

occasionally gives rise to extraordinary feats of memory. There is said to be a strong correlation between the eidetic B-type disposition and susceptibility to suggestion. Jaensch points out that primitive races tend more towards eidetic experiences, and Storch has pointed out the significance of eidetic phenomena for the understanding of schizophrenic thinking. Schilder considers that what Jaensch calls the kalotropic tendency—that is, the tendency to visualize pleasant objects more clearly and completely, while unpleasant ones are modified or do not appear at all—is the same as Freud's repression of disagreeable contents. The B-type furnishes the soil for dream-like delirious states, the T-type for stuporose states and emotional outbursts. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

3. Psychiatry.

Sidelights. (*Caled. Med. Journ.*, July, 1930.) Mackenzie, T. C.

Dr. Mackenzie has given in this paper, the Presidential Address to the Caledonian Medical Society for the year 1930, an interesting account of life and work in one of the most northern of Scottish mental hospitals. The history of the hospital is given at some length, the difficulties met with and overcome by the various administrators are indicated, and many happy stories are told illustrative of the mentality of the folk of *Tir nan Og*.

WM. MCWILLIAM.

Hallucinations: Their Nature and Significance. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, January, 1930.) Campbell, C. Macfie.

In clinical psychiatry the term "hallucination" is used to cover a great variety of experiences, and in this review Dr. Macfie Campbell describes the simple and impersonal hallucinations associated with a variety of toxic and organic conditions, and the more complex and personal ones related to important preoccupations, which are not infrequently dissociated from the rest of the personality. Case-histories are freely used to illustrate points raised.

WM. MCWILLIAM.

Incidence of Syphilis in Insanity. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1930.) Proescher, F., and Arkush, A. S.

Apart from paresis and cerebro-spinal syphilis, no direct relation exists between syphilis and insanity. Neither mental strain nor station in life predisposes to paresis. There is no adequate explanation of the relative frequency of paresis in males. The occurrence of some other psychosis appears to inhibit paresis in patients who are infected with the spirochæte. While there is a popular belief that venereal disease is the dominant factor in filling mental hospitals, it is actually responsible for, approximately, only one in six cases. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.