

that institutional care, on eugenic grounds, be made compulsory in cases where consent is withheld, and where the indication for sterilization is absolute. It is further pointed out that legislation in respect of sterilization (in Germany) is urgently in need of revision, so that surgeons who undertake the operation can do so without fear of legal consequences to themselves. S. ANTONOVITCH.

3. Treatment.

Treatment of Manic-Depressive Psychosis. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, July, 1931.) Hinsie, L. E., and Katz, S. E.

This is a survey of the literature of the past fifty years. A most extensive bibliography is presented, containing more than 550 references. The various trends of psychiatric interest are summarized, but the method of presentation is intentionally uncritical. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Grading of Patients in Mental Hospitals as a Therapeutic Measure. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, July, 1931.) Erickson, M. H., and Hoskins, R. G.

The patients are formally divided into six groups, in accordance with their psychiatric status. Each group is described in terms comprehensible to the patients. Patients are promoted or demoted from grade to grade, in accordance with changes in their mental condition. All such alterations are given publicity in the wards. It is insisted upon that patients are sent home only when they have attained the second highest grade. The method has proved most effective in stimulating self-improvement and confidence. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

The Dehydration Method in Epilepsy. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, July, 1931.) Cameron, D. E.

The method was carried out on a series of twelve typical institutional epileptics. There was no definite effect upon the occurrence of fits, or upon the patient's disposition. The patients were adversely affected by the diet; loss of weight was severe, and resistance was lowered. The method would appear to be of little value. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Autohæmotherapy in Mental Diseases. (*Ann. Méd. Psych.*, June, 1931.) Dessuelles, M., and Chiarli, A.

This method of treatment has been tried on 64 psychotics, the most satisfactory results being obtained in cases of anxiety, melancholia and in certain early delusional states. In the former group, 8 recovered, 7 improved, and 4 were unchanged. In the latter group of 6, 2 recovered, 2 improved in behaviour, and 2 remained unchanged. Five to 10 c.c. of citrated blood were given at one- to or three-day intervals, the number of injections being determined by the oculo-cardiac reflex, the blood-pressure, and changes

in the mental state. It is pointed out that the method is simple, inexpensive, not dangerous, and not contra-indicated by tubercle or feeble health; that it seldom causes alarming pyrexia, but that, like all methods of protein shock, it is inconstant in its results.

S. M. COLEMAN.

Presentation of General Paralytics Successfully Treated by Sodium Stovarsol. (Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment., November, 1929.) Marchand, L.

Twelve women were treated by three series of twenty intramuscular injections of 1 grm. of sodium stovarsol, three injections being given each week, with a rest period of one month between each series. Six of the cases are reported to be in a state of remission; two have resumed their normal occupation. One case is still under treatment, but shows improvement, while another has shown some decrease in affective unbalance. In the other four cases the treatment has been without effect. In all the improved cases there has been some modification in the reactions of the cerebro-spinal fluid, but there was no change in the blood Wassermann and Meinicke. The paper is followed by a discussion disclosing a marked diversity of opinion as to the relative merits of malarial, tryparsamide and stovarsol therapy.

S. M. COLEMAN.

The Use of Sulphur for the Production of Fever. (Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., July, 1931.) Mackay, P. P.

The author carried out experimental work on rabbits with injections of sulphur in oil. He thinks that the fever is due to the liberation of protein from necrosed muscle, the destruction of the muscle being due either to the sulphur or to the liberation of hydrogen sulphide. Sulphur is superior to typhoid vaccine, in that the fever is of longer duration and that chill is usually avoided, but inferior in that local pain and tenderness may be very troublesome. It has several advantages over malaria, and is easier to control.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

4. Neurology.

A Clinical Contribution to the Study of Cerebral Tumours. (Rassegna di Studi Psichiatrici, May-June, 1930.) Antonini, G.

The author gives a detailed account of twenty cases of cerebral tumour varying in type and situation, to which he adds a description of the *post-mortem* findings. He analyses systematically the physical signs and symptoms, and the results of chemical and radiological examinations. In discussing the symptoms in general, he lays stress upon the frequency and earliness of headache, which he attributes to the early stages of hypertension in the cerebro-spinal fluid. He pays special attention to mental symptoms, describing in detail the general picture, and analysing the localizing value of certain groups of symptoms.

He distinguishes carefully between symptoms which constitute