

it is pointed out that the type of clinical material in mental hospitals rarely lends itself to this method. The discoveries of mental analysis are reinforced. To reinforce either a major conflict or an identification directly is, in both cases, dangerous. The results obtained in these four cases, according to the author, bear out Freud's assertion as to the homosexual element in paranoid diseases.

F. H. HEALEY.

*The Professional Selection of Psychiatric Nurses and the Apportionment of their Work* [Selección profesional de enfermeros psiquiátricos y distribución de trabajo]. (*Arch. de Neurobiol.*, vol. xiii, p. 343, March-April, 1933.) Lafora, G. R.

A reform of the national psychiatric service is being undertaken with great vigour in Spain. An improvement of the standard of mental hospital nursing is an essential part of this. Much time and trouble will be saved by a careful preliminary selection of candidates. The method of selection is described. A somewhat elaborate scheme of tests is employed, which includes physiological investigations, and intelligence, performance, moral and ethical tests. Most importance is placed upon the results given by the performance tests and the tests of moral conduct. The week's work is calculated at 70 hours. Each nurse has one free day each week, and those on night duty have one day's rest in each four.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Practical Modes of Treatment in Handling Mental Hygiene Problems in a University.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xiii, p. 57, July, 1933.) Smith, S. K.

Describes the work done at the University of California. The cases come after an initial medical examination and routine laboratory investigation. More students come in their first and second years than in the later two years. Social and sexual maladjustments and the psycho-neuroses form the majority of the cases. Treatment consists of attention to physical health, adjustment to the social demands of a university group, and analytical procedure when such is indicated. Greater improvement occurs in sexual than in social maladjustments, and the least improvement is found in the psycho-neuroses. Many mental inferiors are discovered, who have no intellectual capacity to acquire a university degree.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Therapy for Children.* (*Occupat. Ther. and Rehabil.*, vol. xii, Oct., 1933.) MacKay, Ruth.

To the child, life is real, life is earnest, and play is not its goal—such is the author's thesis. A healthy reaction on body and spirit is claimed for the sick child in hospital, who becomes a member of a group making a useful article. Interest is sustained by keeping the ultimate nature of the project a secret. Detailed instructions for the manufacture of a merry-go-round are supplied, and its advantages as a completed project enumerated. Many benefits accrue from such supervised occupation.

JOHN D. W. PEARCE.

*Possibilities of Occupational Therapy in a Child Guidance Clinic.* (*Occupat. Ther. and Rehabil.*, vol. xii, Oct., 1933.) Cooper, Olive A.

The author states that in an informal occupational therapy unit recently established at the North Reading State Sanatorium for tuberculous children, results have exceeded the initial expectation. The chosen activity inspired, in the child excluded from the normal pursuits of his years, a feeling of usefulness and self-forgetfulness, and tended to remove his attention from his physical condition, and so to offset the feeling of inferiority engendered thereby. She suggests that an occupational therapy programme can be organized in a child guidance clinic, both as an aid to the psychiatrist in child study and as an adjunct to psychotherapy. The need is stressed for diversifying and individualizing

the treatment in order that, on the one hand, independence be fostered, and on the other, social co-operation encouraged.

JOHN D. W. PEARCE.

*The Place of Occupational Therapy in the Management of the Functional Psychoses.* (*Occupat. Ther. and Rehabil.*, vol. xii, p. 227, Aug., 1933.) Noble, T. Douglas.

It is pointed out how mental illness arises from psychic traumata, and how in treatment effort is made to modify the patient's attitude to these mishaps. The functions and relationships between the psychiatrist and occupational therapist are discussed. Notes of three cases are given showing how patients' difficulties have been analysed psychologically, and at the same time how occupational therapy in the form of work and play has expanded the interest of previously shut-in patients. To an English psychiatrist the American methods seem characteristically rapid, one patient being actively occupied in therapeutic work within four weeks of admission.

F. H. HEALEY.

*The Treatment of Severe Chorea by Sulphate of Magnesium* [*Tratamiento de la corea grave por el sulfato de magnesio*]. (*Arch. de Neurobiol.*, vol. xiii, p. 307, March-April, 1933.) Albo, W. L.

The salts of magnesium occupy an intermediate position between substances which act by paralysing the centres and the strictly narcotic drugs. The likeness to chloroform is well known. The author has employed sulphate of magnesium in the treatment of chorea for some fifteen years with good results. He considers that the drug should be given subcutaneously in every case of chorea of any gravity, reserving the endolumbar mode of administration for cases which do not yield quickly to treatment by the hypodermic route. It is absolutely necessary to use pure crystallized sulphate of magnesium.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Malarial Therapy in Non-syphilitic Psychoses* [*Malariaterapia delle psicosi non luetiche*]. (*Arch. gen. di Neurol., Psichiat. e Psicoanal.*, vol. xiii, p. 121, July, 1932.) Levi-Bianchini, M., and Nardi, J.

The writers report results on 476 cases of non-syphilitic psychoses of varying types. They compare the fever in the two groups of syphilitic and non-syphilitic psychoses, and find that there is a great similarity. Malarial therapy gave good results in about 25% of schizophrenics and in about 44% of manic-depressives. In the group consisting of acute and chronic post-infective, arteriosclerotic and endogenous psychoses they obtained about 10% good results. The treatment failed completely in epilepsy, in post-encephalitic bradyphrenia and oligophrenia. The authors consider that malarial treatment is indicated in all psychoses associated with general psychomotor excitement.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Autohæmotherapy in Chronic Mental Diseases* [*L'autoemoterapia nelle forme croniche di malattie mentali*]. (*Il Cervello*, vol. xii, p. 263, July, 1933.) di Mauro, S.

The author treated six cases, three of dementia præcox, one schizophrenic, one epileptic and one melancholic. In some cases there was a transitory improvement, but the results were generally poor.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Ovarian Therapy in Vasomotor and Nervous Disturbances of the Menopause.* (*Irish Journ. Med. Sci.*, sixth series, p. 478, Aug., 1933.) Fisher, M.

A discussion on the causation of the symptoms of the menopause, with special reference to the endocrinological basis. The author has treated 25 cases with a proprietary ovarian extract. Benefit is claimed in all the cases. Notes of 10 of the cases are given. The relationship between the oral and the parenteral dose of ovarian hormones is discussed.

F. H. HEALEY.