

up self-respect, organizing good habits and a feeling of adequacy, rendering it not only possible but attractive to attain a level of mature responsibility—truly a stupendous task.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

New York Narcotic Drug Survey. (*Med.-Legal Journ.*, March-April, 1930.) Herzog, A. W.

The case-histories of 433 men and 117 women are analysed. Physical pain and mental stress were the primary causes in 13%, and bad associations in 24%. The vast majority of the addicts were of the white races. Married and single persons were represented in almost equal proportions. Heroin addiction comprised more than 59% of the cases. The majority ranged from 21 to 35 years of age. The average addict purchases from 4 to 25 shillings-worth of drug daily. The method of gradual reduction was applied in all cases, the prescribed period of treatment being three weeks.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

The Possible Liability of Physicians in Cases of Attempted Suicide. (*Med.-Legal Journ.*, March-April, 1930.) Herzog, A. W.

If a sane man is attempting suicide, would another person who interfered be guilty of a technical assault, or be civilly liable for any injuries which the would-be suicide might sustain? The question appears to depend upon whether an attempt at suicide is an offence under the laws of the particular jurisdiction under which it occurred. If it is not an offence, a physician, or any other person who interfered, would be criminally and civilly liable.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Partial Insanity and Criminal Intent. (*Med.-Legal Journ.*, May-August, 1930.) Weihofen, H.

The New York Court of Appeals has recently laid it down that "febleness of mind or will, not so extreme as to justify a finding that the defendant is irresponsible, may properly be considered in determining whether a homicide has been committed with a deliberate and premeditated design to kill, and thus may be effective to reduce the grade of the offence." If generally adopted, this dictum would revolutionize the legal system. It would have, in practice, to be combined with arrangements for the treatment as well as the punishment of "partially insane" offenders, and such treatment would have to be continued after the expiration of the formal sentence of imprisonment.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

4. Pathology.

The Physiopathological Significance of the Meningeal Permeability. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1930.) Katzenelbogen, S.

"Meningeal permeability" is selective towards substances introduced into the general circulation; there is no obstacle to