

Early Insanity: Its Medico-Legal Aspects. (Caledon. Med. Journ., April, 1927.) Greenlees, T. D.

In this article the author caters for the general medical practitioner rather than the specialist in psychiatry, and in its first instalment covers a wide field. He deals with mental disorders in infancy and childhood; puberty and adolescence, here emphasizing the importance of psychological prophylaxis; adult life, the climacteric period and old age. The instalment contains matter which is expressed in an interesting but necessarily superficial manner.

WM. MCWILLIAM.

Medico-Legal Relations of Encephalitics [Les Réactions Médico-Légales chez les Encéphalitiques]. (L'Encéph., June, 1926.) Rossi, M.

The author describes a number of illustrative cases, and concludes that encephalitis is commonly only a partial factor in the medico-legal relation of encephalitics in that it is acting on a soil already delinquent, though he admits a diminished responsibility in many cases. A full list of recent literature on the subject is added.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

The Laboratory of Experimental Psychology and the Psychiatric Clinique [Le Laboratoire de Psychologie Expérimentale et la Clinique Psychiatrique]. (L'Encéph., June, 1926.) Lahy, J. M.

This paper is a plea for the closer correlation of the two departments mentioned. The necessity for recording the results of simple psychomotor tests in undoubted cases of the various psychoses, in order to provide standards which would help in difficult diagnoses, is urged.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

The Model Mental Hospital at Buenos Ayres [L'Institut Modèle de Phrénopathie a Buenos-Aires]. (Hyg. Ment., May, 1927.) Claude, H.

This is a short account of a modern mental hospital of 1,700 beds built on the "Villa" system and covering 150 acres in the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres. The author states that it is administered most successfully on the Scottish system of open doors and liberal parole. Careful classification of patients is possible and restraint is unknown.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

7. Mental Hospital Reports.

ENGLAND.

Herts County Mental Hospital.—The total number of beds owned by Hertfordshire at the two mental hospitals (Hill End and Arlesey) at the end of the year 1926 was 1,181, and the total number of patients was 1,061, giving an excess of beds as far as Hertfordshire patients are concerned of 120 beds (M., 95; F., 25); this excess is at present partly occupied by out-county and private patients.