

than the neocortex. Myelinization slowly advances in nerve-roots, spinal cord, caudal portions of the brain-stem and cerebellum. Later it affects the midbrain and finally the cerebral hemisphere. While local cortical differentiation is in process, the animal increases the number and effectiveness of its reactions until it displays all the behaviour characteristics of its kind. In many respects the cortical differentiation in the adult rat is extremely primitive, and this accounts for the comparatively limited rôle of the cortex in the control of the somatic behaviour of the albino rat.

J. L. FAULL.

2. Psychology and Psychopathology.

Trends in Modern Psychology. (*Psychol. Bull.*, vol. xxxi, p. 81, Feb., 1934.)
Goodenough, F. L.

This paper is based upon the proportionate number of publications listed in the *Psychological Index* and noted in *Psychological Abstracts*. The curve for educational psychology rises steadily. There has been a marked increase in papers on industrial and personal problems. The increase in papers upon childhood and adolescence has been very marked, and this also applies to mental tests; the increase in the latter subject has been greater in America than in other countries. Questions of statistical method have increased during recent years. Publications on sensation and perception have not kept pace with the increase in other topics. Papers on the nervous system show an absolute decrease. The employment of philosophical terms in the titles of papers tends to diminish in frequency.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

A Quantitative Study of Eidetic Imagery. (*Brit. Journ. Educ. Psychol.*, vol. iv, p. 56, Feb., 1934.) Teasdale, H.

The author found that over 60% of children between 10-14 years of age, in the locality investigated, failed to get any image on a grey background, after regarding a silhouette picture with non-fixation. Less than 10% of the children tested had images rich in detail and of several minutes' duration. Among those who did get images there was a gradation from very weak to very strong images. When only the richest and most stable images were counted as eidetic images, it was found that eidetic ability was most frequent at the youngest ages tested. If the standard was made a little lower, so that images of a rather inferior type were included, then eidetic images were found to be most frequent from 11-12 years. It appears that there are two types of eidetic imagery, one which is very prevalent among young children and decreases with increasing age, and one which is not so rich in detail, which does not show such marked divergencies from normal after-images, and which becomes more frequent with increasing age up to 14 years.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Noises and Colours in Relation to Mental Hygiene [*Los ruidos y los colores desde el punto de vista de la higiene mental*]. (*La Semana Méd.*, vol. xli, p. 252, Jan. 18, 1934.) Gorriti, F.

The plague of noise, so marked in great cities, is highly prejudicial in certain cases, and should be made the subject of mental hygiene propaganda. Constant noises may precipitate the occurrence of psychoses and may produce or aggravate nervous states. Delusions of persecution may be traced to the influence of oft-repeated noises. The influence of colours upon mental state is well known, and has long been employed in theatres. We should make use of this influence in mental hospitals. Wards for the treatment of maniacal patients should have windows of blue glass, while red glass should be used for melancholics and demented. By planting gardens with flowers of these respective colours, we may extend the therapeutic use of colour to patients when out of doors.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.