

amount almost equal to the volume of the brain—could be injected into the ventricle within two hours; after each injection the pressure returned to the original level. Immediate *post-mortem* did not reveal any œdema, so that rapid and complete absorption must have taken place directly into the blood-stream through the choroid plexus. On the other hand, ventricular fluid could be withdrawn repeatedly without lowering the ultimate ventricular pressure, if the salt content so withdrawn was replaced in the form of hypertonic saline solution. In all these experiments the choroid plexus behaved in a manner consistent with the conception that it functions as a semi-permeable membrane, permitting the passage of fluid in either direction in accordance with the laws of osmosis.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Galvanic Skin Reflex. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, July, 1931.) Syz, H. C., and Kinder, E. F.

This is a study of the content of the stimulus words eliciting psycho-galvanic responses in persons belonging to different psychopathological groups and in normal individuals. The authors found in the abnormal groups an emphasis on words relating to personal characteristics, to terms which imply a valuation of one's self, often with an undertone of expected failure, inferiority or guilt. There was a slightly greater emphasis on depressive topics among the depressed patients. The paranoid schizophrenics showed almost the same general reaction as the depressed ones. As the psycho-galvanic response may be taken as an indicator of emotional activity, it appeared that there was more emotional activity in the schizophrenic than in the depressive group. The results go to confirm that schizophrenic development often does not mean a decrease of emotional assets and activities, but rather a disturbance in the constellation and application of emotional trends. In the normal persons there is less emphasis on egocentric anxieties and concerns, but there is a marked predominance of reaction to sex words; this is due largely to a socially induced sensitiveness.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

2. Psychology and Psycho-Pathology.

Symbolism as a Mental Process. (*Psyche*, No. 46, October, 1931.) McConnel, Ursula Hope.

A study of the Totem in the Wik-Munkan tribe, with a critical survey of the Freudian interpretation of the symbolism of primitive societies.

S. M. COLEMAN.

A New Approach to the Problem of Psychoneurosis in Childhood. (*Brit. Journ. Med. Psychol.*, November, 1931.) Lowenfeld, M. F.

Adopting the standpoint that a neurosis represents the reaction of the whole child to its whole circumstances, Miss Lowenfeld

outlines some cases of psychoneurosis in children treated at the Children's Clinic for the Treatment and Study of Nervous and Delicate Children. She gives a sketch of the methods by which they are treated, and concludes: "I have a profound belief in the neurotic child; well handled, I believe he is excellent material for the well-being of the next generation."

WM. McWILLIAM.

On Defining Psycho-analysis. (*Brit. Journ. Med. Psychol.*, August, 1931.) *Stephen, A.*

In this paper the author defines his attitude and ideas on the subject of psycho-analysis, recognizing that the term "is used even by psycho-analysts themselves in several different but more or less closely allied senses." He takes the word in "just one of its uses, that is to say, as the name of a particular form of psycho-therapy," and describes to what sort of process it is applied. He reviews and discusses the various aspects of the subject at some length, but invariably in interesting fashion.

WM. McWILLIAM.

The Interpretability of Dreams. (*Brit. Journ. Med. Psychol.*, August, 1931.) *Woodard, J. W.*

This article is of especial interest in that it gives *verbatim* account of the analysis of a dream. The outlook of the writer is tolerant, and he upholds no particular school, but he gives his own personal views and procedure in this analysis.

WM. McWILLIAM.

Association in Normal and Subnormal Adolescents. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) *McElwee, E. W.*

The normal adolescents studied were 80 children, aged about 14 years, in a junior high school; the subnormals were 85 children, aged 14 years, in the ungraded classes of New York City. The normals had a higher number of individual reactions than children under 16 years taken as a group; this indicates the presence of some emotional instability during adolescence. The subnormals had a much greater number of individual reactions than the normals; this may indicate either that subnormals are more emotionally unstable during adolescence, or that subnormals should be measured by the standard for children of a lower age, at which a larger number of individual reactions is to be expected.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Internationale Zeitschrift für Individual-Psychologie, November, 1931. *Trick and Neurosis.* *Adler, A.*

In this article Adler discusses the idea that much achievement in human activities, in art and science, etc., is due to a form of mental guess-work—to an immediate, irrational grasp, one might say, of relations. While this intuitive "trick" may often have the happiest results, if, indeed, it does not prove the sole method of