

cloister and adopted a political and literary career. He was distinguished for boundless generosity. His writings were voluminous. Specimens of his verses are given, and show a marked tendency to the use of neologisms. His psychotic state was more than suspected by his contemporaries, but no power then existed by which he could be legally restrained. The author of the article considers that it provides a good illustration of the value of estimating the character of an historical personage in the light of modern psychiatric knowledge. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*On Pathological Lying. (Character and Personality, vol. ii, p. 48, Sept., 1933.) Wiersma, D.*

Delbrück first published cases of this syndrome, which is called "pseudologia phantastica" in French literature and "mythomania" in English literature.

The author presents the histories of three male patients, one of whom he regards as typical, while the other two lack one of the characteristics of the condition.

A psychological explanation of the syndrome is given, and the author discusses whether the primary anomaly is to be sought in intellectual defects, or in special peculiarities of temperament or character. It is demonstrated by an analysis of 2,532 normals that there is a marked correlation between untruthfulness and the nervous temperament. Disagreement is expressed at the statements of Kahn, Dupré, etc., that pseudologia phantastica is only a form of hysteria. The author regards the syndrome as a partial infantilism of the character.

F. H. HEALEY.

*Next Steps in Personality Measurement. (Character and Personality, vol. ii, p. 66, Sept., 1933.) Watson, G.*

The author remarks that there have been over a thousand studies concerned with personality measurement, yet he is thoroughly dissatisfied with the present line of development in these tests. He thinks that the easy acceptance of intelligence tests in the last twenty years in America is a hindrance to the task of finding the individual differences in intellect. He gives two reasons why specificity in character appears to be the usual outcome of American tests. Firstly, the situations have not been psychologically controlled, and secondly the poor choice of unit to be tested. He deplors the tendency to collect data and work out theories therefrom, and states that profuse correlations are no substitute for insight. He resents the collection of detailed data, and suggests that thought should be directed to the points in which unity in the personality is to be expected, and then tests should be created to correspond to psychological reality. The maintenance of his standard would throw out practically all the work that has been so far performed in the creation of personality tests by American psychologists. He would like to see a symptom *questionnaire* of a better type than the Woodworth-Thurstone-Bernreuter series. Another improvement would be an attempt to bridge the gap between character objective and character tests. One should choose units which fit the true patterns of human behaviour. He would encourage the creation of tests which help in diagnosis as well as in symptom description. He deplors the making of tests merely as a method of obtaining degrees in philosophy. The hope is expressed that we are at the beginning of an era of quality rather than quantity in personality and character measurement.

F. H. HEALEY.

*The Study of Heredity as Applied to Psychic Properties. (Character and Personality, vol. ii, p. 41, Sept., 1933.) Verschuer, O. V.*

This paper gives details of heredity study, accounting the mass of experience bearing on the influence of environment and dealing with two main methods, the study of twins and the study of families. It is demonstrated that dispositions towards normality, as well as to morbidity, are hereditary. References to the literature are given, and it is pointed out that Lange is the only worker to have written on psychopathic and criminal twins.

F. H. HEALEY.