

distinguished from Alzheimer's disease, normal senile arterio-sclerotic dementia and syphilitic cerebral endarteritis.

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From Psycho-analysis to Psycho-synthesis [De la Psychanalyse a la Psychosynthèse]. (L'Encéph., September-October, 1926.) Maeder, A.

This paper begins with a short *résumé* of the views of Freud, and proceeds to show their defects regarded as a philosophical doctrine. The psycho-analyst emphasizing the past tends to deny that tendency to improve which the author sees throughout human nature. The synthetic point of view which he upholds regards the present as of more importance and value than the past, and according to him the cure of a neurosis depends at least as much on a constructive attitude towards the future as on an analytic examination of the past. Analysis, the author states, is a "means" and not, as too often regarded, an "end." He deplores the relativist, positivist and hedonist philosophic outlook of the present medical generation thus typified by Freud as contrary to the Hippocratic spirit. The author points his arguments very instructively in an account of a young married woman in whose case unsatisfied sexual desire and a generally passionate and immature nature were represented clinically by an obstinate mucous colitis, the large intestine having taken over the duties, in her case, of an erogenetic zone.

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The Rôle of Shock in the Crises of Excitement, Anxiety and Confusion [Le Rôle du Choc dans les Crises d'Excitation, d'Anxiété ou de Confusion]. (L'Encéph., July-August, 1926.) Tinel, J., and Santenoise, D.

The authors have previously argued that paroxysms of anxiety, mania and confusion are, like asthma, urticaria, etc., as a rule preceded by biological reactions comparable to the hæmoclastic shock described by Widal, and in this paper they advance further arguments for the same view. Further, they consider that strong emotion may, in its effects, resemble shock by upsetting the vago-sympathetic balance, and by leading to the liberation of harmful toxic agents previously inactive. Cases in illustration are quoted.

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6. Sociology and Mental Hygiene.

The Penal Establishments and Reformatory Schools of Victoria.

We have received a number of reports from Melbourne, dealing with the working of the penal establishments and reformatory schools of Victoria for the year 1926. These contain several points of interest.

Amongst all children under State guardianship, the incidence of congenital syphilis was between 12 and 15%. In the same series, the incidence of congenital syphilis amongst mentally defective