

contrasted with 27% of the cases treated by artificial pyrexia. 22% of the diathermy series showed a normal spinal fluid following treatment contrasted with 37% in the malarial and tryparsamide-treated cases. T. E. BURROWS.

*The Value of Psychoanalysis as a Therapeutic Procedure.* (Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc., vol. cvii, p. 326, Aug. 1, 1936.) Hyman, H. T.

The author reports on 43 cases treated by psychoanalysis. 15 patients suffered from profound psychiatric disease, 6 were manic-depressive, 5 were schizophrenic, 2 homosexual, 1 constitutional inferior, and 1 chronic alcoholic.

In this group 12 of the cases were dismal failures. In 2 patients the results are still questionable, 1 a manic-depressive, and 1 a schizophrenic who is apparently developing some insight into his condition as a result of treatment. In 1 case, that of a homosexual, there was a complete cure. Of the remaining 28 cases, 4 cases made a complete recovery. They included 2 anxiety states, 1 obsessional state, and 1 anxiety hysteria with asthma and duodenal ulceration. In the last case the physical symptoms were also cured. Another 13 patients were distinctly benefited by the treatment, although in every instance alteration in the life situation could have played a part. This group included 3 patients with behaviour problems (lying, petty thievery and masturbation), 5 cases of anxiety hysteria, 1 with claustrophobia, 1 with characterological defect, 2 with marked neuroses.

Eleven patients experienced no significant benefit from their analyses. These included 1 patient with impotence, 1 with frigidity, 3 who were hypochondriac, 5 with anxiety neuroses, and 1 with unclassifiable syndrome.

Age and intelligence were factors in prognosis, the best results being obtained with patients between the middle twenties and forty to forty-five years of age who possessed a plastic and trained intelligence. T. E. BURROWS.

*The Treatment of Myasthenia Gravis by the Oral Administration of Prostigmin.* (Bull. Neur. Inst. New York, vol. iv, p. 523, Dec., 1935.) Everts, W. H.

Two cases of myasthenia gravis are reported in which the patients were relieved of symptoms and restored to health by the oral administration of prostigmin continued for a period of months. The oral administration of prostigmin was effective, and showed distinct advantages over the hypodermic use of the drug. The best results were obtained by doses of 30 mgrm. given three times daily. The oral administration of prostigmin produced no gastric or intestinal disturbances.

T. E. BURROWS.

*The Use of Orally Administered Ergotamine Tartrate, Amniotin and Phenobarbital in the Treatment of Migraine.* (Bull. Neur. Inst. New York, vol. iv, p. 432, Dec., 1935.) Soltz, S. E., et al.

The authors report the results of the treatment of a group of migrainous patients. Forty-three were treated with oral ergotamine tartrate, 32 with amniotin, and 11 with phenobarbital. Oral ergotamine tartrate is effective in adult males and children of either sex who suffer with either simple or ophthalmic migraine. It is effective in adult females who suffer with the simple type of migraine, and is also useful in women who are in the menopause. Oral amniotin is frequently useful in women with either type of migraine, and its effectiveness does not appear to be affected by the existence of the menopause. With both forms of treatment women who have never been pregnant respond better than other women. Phenobarbital was helpful in a small group of patients among whom the ophthalmic type of attack predominated. No facts connected with abnormalities of the sella or of menstruation appeared to have any relation to success or failure with any of the modes of treatment, and the same statement is made with regard to age of onset, duration of the migraine and age at time of treatment. T. E. BURROWS.