

attitudes towards their mothers. In eight of the nine cases there was evidence of infantile deviation from normal personality. Overt homosexuality was present in one case, and was potential in three others. Guilt feeling was strong in the group, and in some cases appeared to be pleasure toned; the guilt was often projected upon the mother. There was no evidence in favour of the conception of a "moral deficiency."

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Encephalographic Studies in General Paresis. (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., March, 1931.) Ebaugh, F. G., Dixon, H. H., Kiene, H. E., and Allen, K. D.*

A group of 70 cases of general paresis was studied, and 97 encephalographies were performed. Arachnoiditis was shown to be cleared up by malarial treatment. Encephalography in careful hands is a safe clinical procedure. The findings are definitely related to the pathology present. Clinical improvement in many cases appears to be closely correlated with the encephalographic findings.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Relation of Time of Day, Sleep, and Other Factors to the Incidence of Epileptic Seizures. (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., March, 1931.) Patry, F. L.*

The patients, 31 in number, were placed in three groups, *i.e.*, those in whom the attacks were predominantly diurnal, mainly nocturnal, or occurred at any time; attacks were more frequent in the first two groups than in the third. Two thirds of the patients exhibited "time peaks," *i.e.*, concentration of attacks around certain hours; nine such peaks could be recognized. The pooled fits showed a greater seasonal incidence during the spring months. Mental deterioration was less rapid in the diurnal group, and this group was more liable to *status epilepticus*. A high systolic blood-pressure and a high pulse-pressure were found to be bad prognostic signs.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Pupillary Disturbances in Schizophrenic Negroes. (Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., April, 1931.) Schilder, P., and Parker, S.*

The authors found pupillary changes in catatonia much more frequent in negroes than in white persons. A constitutional factor appears to be essentially responsible, and it is probable that this factor concerns the pupillary apparatus itself. Changes of the so-called catatonic type may be observed in any pupil which is affected by a toxic or an organic lesion of a slight degree. In particular the authors found them in cases of intoxication with alcohol, scopolamine and morphine. The phenomena are due to a coincidence of constitutional psychic and toxic factors.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.