

much to confirm the belief that some sort of relation exists between various constitutional mental disorders.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

The Relation of the Types of Physique to the Types of Mental Diseases. (*Journ. Abnormal and Social Psychol.*, vol. xxvii, July-September, 1932.)
Campbell, K. J.

The author examined a group of 1,203 cases whose weight in pounds per inch of height was recorded. She found no difference in four out of six comparisons. The curve for weight in pounds showed that the male manic was on the average 10 lb. heavier than the male dementia præcox. The curve in pounds per inch of height showed that the mode weighed 10 lb. per inch more for the male manic than for the male præcox. Kretschmer gives 30 lb. per inch difference. The author thinks that the fact that her group consisted of mixed nationalities, whereas Kretschmer's was purely Teutonic, may explain the difference.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Rôle Played by Masturbation in the Causation of Mental Disturbances. (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, vol. lxxvi, September-October, 1932.)
Malamud, W., and Palmer, G.

The authors arrive at the following provisional conclusions:

(1) In a certain number of mentally diseased persons, the development of the disease is closely related to the practice of masturbation.

(2) The conditions observed are closely associated with conflicts that are brought on by the attitudes taken towards masturbation, its effects and implications.

(3) The development of an abnormal mental state in relation to such a conflict is not an invariable concomitant of masturbation. In most persons where it was found to be the case there were a number of phenomena in which they differed from the average. The most important of these were:

(a) Constitutional peculiarities as evidenced by poor heredity, abnormal personality traits or both.

(b) Lack of proper sex education along with a history of misinformation as to alleged effects of masturbation.

(c) Very frequently unsatisfactory general environmental situation.

(4) The development of the abnormal state showed no definite relationship to the continuation of masturbation into the adult life, and in this case the authors found no proof of the supposition that it was excessive masturbation that led to the development of the disturbances.

(5) Psychotherapy was found to be very affective in the readjustment of the patients.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Pavlov's Theory of Schizophrenia.

At the meeting of the Boston Society of Psychiatry and Neurology on October 22, 1931, Dr. J. Kasanin read a paper which was a translation of what seemed to him the most important passages in two articles read by Pavlov in January, 1930, in Leningrad, and subsequently published in a small book. These passages seem to warrant *verbatim* reproduction, and are reproduced from the *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry*, July, 1932, p. 210, by kind permission of the Editor and of Dr. J. Kasanin: