

convulsions gave a positive reaction, otherwise they gave a negative reaction. Dementia præcox and neuro-psychopathic cases always gave a negative Donaggio reaction. P. MASUCCI (Chem. Abstr.).

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### 8. Criminology.

*An Intensive Psychiatric Study of Prisoners.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., vol. xiii, p. 1184, May, 1934.) McCartney, J. L.

Describes the routine procedure at the classification clinic of the Elmira Reformatory. Newly received inmates remain in this clinic for the first thirty days of their detention. A full examination, both mental and physical, is conducted, and the fullest possible information as to the inmate's previous history is obtained. At the conclusion of the fourth week the case is reviewed at a staff conference, and a diagnosis is made. About 10% of inmates should have been sent to an institution for the feeble-minded, and 37% would not be likely to profit from any form of treatment given at the reformatory. More than 50% of commitments have a favourable prognosis, but at least 40% should never be released from close supervision, as they will undoubtedly continue to be anti-social. It is not, however, easy to define the type of case which requires this permanent supervision. Prisoners should be dealt with as mentally sick individuals. An indefinite stay in a correctional institution should be prescribed. Marked differences between the results given on intelligence and performance test and lack of uniform results in the latter are characteristic of emotional instability.

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