

without speaking, but being able to read, to write, and to understand everything. The lesion was localised in the lenticular area of the left hemisphere. Two other cases of motor aphasia, one without dementia, the other with agnosia and dementia, presented lesions of the temporal convolution and of the lenticular zone, without any lesion of Broca's convolution.

Dr. Souques also presented the brain of a young female patient who, suffering from mitral stenosis, was suddenly taken with an apoplectic seizure and motor aphasia; she subsequently died from pleuro-pneumonia. The *post-mortem* examination showed a single focus of softening in the left hemisphere, which had destroyed the posterior part of the two first temporal convolutions and reached the posterior and external part of the lenticular zone. Broca's convolution was intact.

GERMANY.

By Dr. JOHANNES BRESLER.

IN my previous reports, I have mentioned the efforts made in Germany for establishing sanatoriums for patients of the lower classes suffering from nervous diseases. I can now state that a third sanatorium has been erected at Roderbirken, near Leichlingen (Rhein-provinz); the medical superintendent is Dr. Beyer. The two sanatoriums already existing, Hans Schöfnow, near Berlin, and Rasemühle, near Göttingen, have shown by their activity during several years the full purpose of their existence.

At the University of Greifswald, a new psychiatric clinic has been established, and at Johnsthal, near Türktelu, in the Rheinprovinz, a large general provincial asylum has been erected.

In the larger cities, there is more and more the tendency to erect asylums for their insane (at least the curable), instead of using the country asylums. I mention, for instance, the establishment of the city asylums of Chemnitz (Saxonia), Stuttgart, and Nürnberg.

The efforts to propagate psychopathic knowledge amongst non-medical laymen have been continued. For example, at Giessen, in the psychiatric clinic of the University, a course of medical psychology with regard to the treatment and education of the congenitally feeble-minded took place from April 2nd to 7th, 1906, and was attended by more than 100 persons, teachers, clergymen, and physicians. Professors Sommer, Weygandt, and others read papers and gave demonstrations.

The usual meetings of alienists and jurists have taken place during the past year. The detailed reports of some of these societies will be found in the *Juristisch-psychiatrische Grenzfragen*, edited by Finger, Hoche, and myself.

In the second half of April, 1907, an international course of medico-legal psychology and psychiatry will be given at Giessen for physicians, jurists, and officers of prisons and houses of correction, etc. Lectures will be given by the Professors Sommer (Giessen), Aschaffenburg, Dannemann, and others.

On the other hand, our alienists are endeavouring to enlarge their knowledge of other branches of medical science. For this purpose, courses for the further education of the physicians of asylums in medicine, surgery, hygiene, pathological anatomy, bacteriology, etc., have been arranged at the request of the German Society of Psychiatry. The first course, lasting three weeks, took place at Berlin in autumn, 1906. It was very well attended. The cost was defrayed by the Asylum Boards.

To prevent the feeble-minded, or persons of an insufficient psychological resistance, from being levied for service in the Army, the Ministry of Prussia has decreed that the discharge of any juvenile insane or feeble-minded out of the asylums shall be notified to the recruiting agencies.

Finally, I regret to communicate that in the asylum of Hofheim (Hessen) in December, 1906, a physician and an attendant were shot dead by a patient. The patient (suffering from phthisis) had not shown any delusional or persecutory ideas for a long time, and was about to be discharged. During a leave of absence, he furnished himself with a revolver and brought it secretly into the asylum. His physical health grew worse, also his mental state; he was therefore ordered to be transferred to another ward, and upon the discovery of the revolver, he shot the medical officer and attendant who wished to take it from him.

ITALY.

By G. E. FERRARI.

DURING the year 1906 the activity of our principal centres of psychiatric science (Torino, Reggio Emilia, Firenze, Roma, Napoli, etc.) has been as remarkable as usual, and the principal reviews of our speciality—we are pleased to mention particularly *Rivista di Patologia Nervosa e Mentale*, edited by Professor Tanzi—bear witness to it. However, among so many excellently written works, no one publication of such exceptional merit, or rather, so representative of the progress of any one school, has been found as to warrant us giving a special account of it in our annual review. Perhaps this is due, to some extent, to the fact that psychiatric centres, both great and small, have concentrated their attention on the asylums, specially in relation to the new Lunacy Law, of which we have already spoken in a previous letter. The question is, in truth, of a law riddled with imperfections, obvious at once when brought into practice, but which has given a new dignity to the asylum doctor in obliging the County Councils to provide for the upkeep and personal safety of every mentally-afflicted individual. The result is that doctors have now the right to demand from the Councils for the well-being of the sick that which only a short while ago had often to be asked as a favour, even if it remained within the limits of the Provincial balance-sheets. As a further result we now see new asylums built on the best lines, and in the existing asylums we find the doctors applying themselves to improve them as much as possible, to train the staff of