except attention. A second group, the gifted unstable (14%), shows average reasoning and impaired attention, but the other three faculties, all or individually, are markedly superior to normal. This type is frequently met with in paranoid types, sometimes in cases of perversion, and less frequently in pure psychomotor instability. The remaining 62% show a large variety of irregular intellectual curves, the only common factor being diminished attention.

STANLEY M. COLEMAN.

Brilliant Children: With Special Reference to their Particular Difficulties. (*Brit. Journ. Educ. Psychol., vol. vii, p. 247, Nov.*, 1937.) *Nevill, E. M.*

Seventy-eight children whose I.Q. varied from 140–180 were studied. Thirty-five of them were considered difficult. Many were reported to be too quick to be accurate, awkward and clumsy with handwork and unpractical. They were said to spend too much time reading, and had become too self-centred and " bossy ". Amongst the difficult children many of their difficulties were due to mishandling at home or at school. Eighteen of the thirty-five were highly nervous, sensitive and over-anxious, and at least ten were either refusing to go to school or were unhappy there. Eight showed scholastic backwardness and many disliked writing. Social maladjustments existed in fifteen. Brilliance does not lessen the occurrence of jealousy and other personal difficulties of adjustment. In certain circumstances brilliant children may come to feel inferior and react accordingly. Difficulty often arises through the unevenness of their development, the physical and emotional not keeping pace with the intellectual. They may become ultra-critical, self-sufficient and mentally lazy.

Highly intelligent children are easier to help than others, and if appealed to through their reason, treated as older than they are, given suitable types of education, they should fulfil their early promise. Brilliance should be recognized early, and dealt with both at home and at school. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Neural Basis of Innate Behaviour. I: Effects of Cortical Lesions upon the Maternal Behaviour Pattern in the Rat. (*Journ. Comp. Psychol., vol. xxiv, p. 393, Dec.*, 1937.) *Beach, F. A.*

The writer studied maternal behaviour in the virgin rat after lesions involving from 1–57% of the cerebral cortex. The amount of interference with the normal pattern of behaviour was roughly proportional to the amount of tissue destroyed. Those operated on do not clean their new-born pups as thoroughly nor gather them into a nest at the time of parturition as well as do the control animals. The mortality in control litters is markedly lower than in the operated groups. Unilateral cortical lesions are less detrimental to the performance of the maternal behaviour pattern than are bilateral operations. Injury to the posterior half of the cerebrum is followed by more serious deficiencies than operations involving only the anterior cortical areas. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

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3. Psychiatry.

The Condition of the Nearest Relatives of 30 Cases of Climacteric or Involutional Melancholia [*Die Erblage in der nächsten Verwandtschaft von 30 Fällen klimakterischer bzw. involutiver Melancholie*]. (*Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Neur. u Psychiat., vol. clix, p. 11*, 1937.) *Schnitzenberger, H.*

In order to gain some knowledge as to the relationship of involutional melancholia to other psychoses the author investigated the families of 30 cases of involutional melancholia. 1·77% of the parents suffered from involutional melancholia, 5·31% from " affect psychoses ", but none of them were cases of mania