

*A Statistical Review of Convulsive Disorders in the United States.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., January, 1931.) Pollock, H. M.

The rate of prevalence of epilepsy is moderately estimated as 62 per 100,000. The number of epileptics in institutions is 23.2 per 100,000 of population; and of these, 54% are males and 46% females (but there are marked local variations in these figures for the sexes). Epilepsy is not markedly more prevalent in urban than in rural districts. There has been a recent increase in institutional cases, but not in the total number of cases.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Some Observations on Experimentally Produced Convulsions.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., January, 1931.) Pike, F. H., Elsberg, C. A., McCulloch, W. S., and Chappell, M. N.

This paper describes the type of convulsions elicitable after lesions of the rubro-spinal system, and is a continuation of the paper published by the same authors in 1929.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Central Mechanism of Generalized Epileptic Fits.* (Amer. Journ. Psychiat., January, 1931.) Spiegel, E.

There exist several paths for the conduction of the cortical impulse from one side to the motor area of the opposite side. Under normal conditions, generalized epileptic fits may develop along two groups of fibres—either those which cross the midline in the rhombencephalon, or those which cross in the pons. Pathological symptoms are produced only by changes of pre-existent mechanisms.

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## 2. Psychology and Psycho-Pathology.

*Internationale Zeitschrift für Individual-Psychologie, September-October, 1930.*

This number contains the following articles:

*Talks with Parents and Children [Gespräche mit Eltern und Kindern].* Holub, M.

The author claims that a single talk with a child may be enough to bring out the faulty "style of life" and to recognize that the child suffers from an asocial attitude. The symptom is but an expression of this attitude, and it is a mistake to occupy oneself with the symptom instead of with the "style of life." The child ought to be given courage without talking about it. Consultations in public are considered an advantage, and it is often advisable to point out the imperfection of adults. A number of "talks" are reported *in extenso*.