

a position of dependence. The more resolute, despotic type of bully is less common; prostitutes are often markedly attached to these men and they are rarely denounced. Nine illustrative cases are described.

A. WALK.

*Morbid Swindling* [*À propos de l'escroquerie morbide*]. (*Fourn. de Neur. et Psychiat.*, November, 1927.) Nyssen, R.

This paper is an account of the case of a degenerate mythomaniac whose numerous lies and swindles were apparently morbid, but in whom there was not, at any time, any disorder of consciousness. The difficulties in these cases when they fall into the hands of the law are discussed.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Attempted Murder by a Feeble-minded Individual under the Influence of Suggestion by a Cinematograph Film* [*Tentative Homicide par un Débile sous l'influence d'une suggestion obsédante d'Origine Cinématographique*]. (*L Hyg. Ment.*, December, 1927.) Roubinovich, J., and Schiff, P.

Although the cinema has been held responsible for a large number of crimes, in very few cases has this accusation been substantiated. It is therefore interesting to discover a crime which does appear to belong to this type. The criminal was a feeble-minded boy who tried to commit murder by strangling a woman, and subsequently attempting to stab her, thus recapitulating a scene which, he stated, he had witnessed on the screen.

Unfortunately it was not possible to identify the film which seemed responsible for the act, but in view of the facts in the history of the case, the authors of the article see no reason to doubt the method of origin of the crime.

R. S. GIBSON.

*The Mental Hygiene of Children in the United States* [*L'hygiène mentale de l'enfance aux Etats-Unis*]. (*L'Hyg. Ment.*, September-October, 1927.) Boyer, H.

This article is partly based on the experience of the children's court in Chicago, which has lately celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. The author emphasizes the great difficulty in classifying psychological types among children, especially among delinquents. He describes the inadequacy of the conception of orthodox intellectualistic psychology and of behaviourism in understanding and dealing with individual children, and attributes the great vogue of the Freudian theories in America to the fact that they necessarily imply individual investigation. He urges the need of discipline in infancy and childhood, the necessity for the eradication of such emotions as jealousy, and the discouragement of day dreaming. He quotes L. B. Holman: "One must remember that to-morrow exists and can only be made agreeable by overcoming to-day's difficulties."

R. S. GIBSON.