

sexual inversion. [That point is illustrated by the instructive case recorded in this Journal, April, 1896.] HAVELOCK ELLIS.

*Is Sexual Inversion Curable? [Ist die Konträre Sexualempfindung Heilbar].* (*Zeits. f. Sexualwissenschaft, Dec., 1908.*) Sadger, S.

It is held by many who have a wide experience in the matter (including Hirschfeld) that cases of homosexuality on a congenital basis can never be really and genuinely cured. The sexual acts can of course be modified but not the innate direction of the impulse; even hypnotism, it is now held, produces no permanent cures. Dr. Sadger, of Vienna, one of the ablest of Professor Freud's pupils, claims that by the psycho-analytic method, both in his own hands and Freud's, a real cure is possible, provided the patient is fairly young, anxious to become normal, and not highly degenerate.

Sadger brings forward the case of a student, æt. 21, having a maternal aunt insane; his mother and sister are boyish in appearance. He himself has broad hips and very little hair on face; as a child he only cared for girlish amusements. His sexual ideals on coming under treatment centred around masculine individuals and he was attracted to boys, but much troubled by this attraction. Treatment, Sadger recognised, could only be effectual by changing the ideal. Psycho-analytic treatment, however (being the reverse of hypnotic treatment), cannot put anything into the patient; its object is to bring to the surface what is already present in sub-consciousness. Now Sadger believes (with Freud) that—just as in hysteria there are, according to this doctrine, concealed sub-conscious emotions and ideas—there are in every homosexual person latent elements of normal heterosexuality. The homosexual person has gradually organised his memories and feelings around his dominant tendency, and has allowed the normal feelings and memories to lapse. It is the business of the psycho-analytic method to fish up, so to speak, these lapsed feelings and memories from sub-consciousness, and to give them their proper value and force in the patient's conscious life. At first the patient could recall scarcely any memories implying normal sexuality. Many such memories were, however, slowly recovered; the patient gradually realised that behind his masculine ideals there really lay concealed feminine ideals, and after four months' treatment he reached the normal point of view and finally became attached to a woman.

Sadger concludes from this case that (1) even the most intelligent persons seldom know themselves fully or possess reliable recollections; (2) that normal sexuality may really be predominant even in cases where inversion seems to be complete; and (3) that inversion has its roots in early childhood even though it may not become conscious until puberty. HAVELOCK ELLIS.

*Statistical Inquiries regarding Recovered Epileptics [Statistische Untersuchungen über geheilte Epileptiker].* (*Allg. Zeits. f. Psychiat., Bd. 65, H. 1.*) Volland.

The elder physicians gave a bad prognosis for recoveries from epilepsy; a few, such as Odier and Trousseau, considered recovery