

three series of experiments carried out with over 600 subjects in each. In the first series no suggestions were made and the subject had to pick out the best descriptive term from a list of eighteen. In the second and third series the judgments had to be made under two degrees of false suggestion, *viz.*, "face named" and "face analysed."

The results, when no suggestion was given, showed a wide variation with failure in the interpretation of the expression of emotion. With the lower and higher degrees of false suggestion there was a great increase in the percentage of correct judgments. These results, says the author, seem to indicate that the perception of emotional states in others by their expression is of the nature of social meanings, and that they are much more dependent on the stimulus attention than on anything characteristic in the facial expression or reaction. It seems, however, doubtful to the reviewer whether any conclusions can be drawn from these or similar experiments, for they all assume the absolute correctness of the Piderit models.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*Sensitivity to Odours and other Phenomena during a Fast.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, xl, No. 4, October, 1928.) Glaze, F. A.

These experiments were carried out with two subjects, one of whom fasted for five and the other for ten days. The following conclusions are drawn: (1) That there is a marked increase in the sensitivity to odours during a fast. (2) That steadiness, measured by the pointing test, tends to increase as the fast progresses. (3) That the higher mental processes are not improved while the fast is in progress. (4) That the most pronounced success, both in mental and muscular activity, is attained during the post-fast period.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*Effects of General Distraction on the Higher Thought Processes.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, xl, No. 4, October, 1928.) Hovey, H. B.

"Some effects of general distraction have been experimentally investigated. This was done by giving a mental test to a group of college students under standard conditions and a re-test under severe general distraction. A control group was given the same tests without the use of distractions. The following inferences seem justified from the data: (1) Higher mental processes are comparatively unimpeded by distraction. (2) Intelligence is not related to susceptibility to distraction. (3) There are no individual differences in susceptibility to distraction. (4) True mental ability is more nearly approximated under distraction than under standard conditions."

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*The Relation between Different Measures of Ability to Report.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, xl, No. 4, October, 1928.) McGeoch, A.

*Intelligence and the Ability to Report.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, xl, No. 4, October, 1928.) McGeoch, A.

In the light of these experiments the ability to report appears to be largely a question of the material and the method of reporting.

There remains a slight degree of correlation between the performances under the various given conditions even after the removal of the intelligence differences. The fact that relationships are so low can only indicate that the ability which has been measured in these experiments is largely a specific function, or, otherwise stated, that the reliability of these report experiments is very low.

The relationship between intelligence and the ability to report is specific to three factors: (1) The material upon which the report is made, (2) the method of making the report, (3) the method of scoring, or measuring the report.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*A Study of Emotional Specificity.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, *xl*, No. 4, October, 1928.) Wechsler, D., and Jones, H. E.

*Galvanometric Technique in Studies of Associations.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, *xl*, No. 4, October, 1928.) Jones, H. E., and Wechsler, D.

Two papers on the psycho-galvanic reflex as an indicator of emotional processes which, however, offer little help in overcoming the criticisms raised against the interpretation of the phenomenon.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*An Investigation of Bluffing.* (*Amer. Journ. of Psychol.*, *xl*, No. 4, October, 1928.) Thelin, E., and Scott, P. C.

Bluffing is defined, for the purpose of this investigation, as "pretending to greater knowledge than is actually possessed." The tests consisted of the presentation to about 150 students of examination papers in English. A number of answers followed each question and the correct answer had to be underlined. Some of the questions and answers were legitimate, others fictitious. The answering of a fictitious question was considered as bluffing, and it was found that bluffing was universal among the students to whom the tests were given. This inference is, however, unwarranted, and the method of the investigation is ill-conceived.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

*The Emotional Factor in Neuro-Muscular Hyperthermia [Du rôle de l'affectivité dans l'hyperthermie neuro-motrice].* (*L'Encéph.*, May, 1928.) Porak, R.

The author adopts a theory closely resembling that of Lange and William James, that the affective state of well-being is dependent on sensation due to visceral and neuro-muscular activity. Activity, however, results in slight elevation of temperature, and the conclusion is arrived at that the rise in temperature is proportional to the *quality* of the activity. The quality of the activity is dependent on the nature of the idea which is associated with it.

The article is illustrated by examples of personal observation.

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