

was responsible for the evolution of the syndrome. The writer finds a close association between Capgras's syndrome and the *déjà vu* illusion. In one of the cases cited both illusions were present.
STANLEY M. COLEMAN.

Tuberculosis and Dementia Præcox [*Tuberculose et démence précoce*]. (*Ann. Méd. Psych.*, vol. xv [ii], p. 1, June, 1936.) Beerens, J.

A survey of the statistics brings forward no irrefutable evidence to suggest that in dementia præcox death from tuberculosis is of exceptional frequency. Laboratory investigations on twelve cases of dementia præcox suffering from tuberculosis established the absence of the tubercular virus in the cerebro-spinal fluid, while serological examinations showed the absence of a positive reaction for tuberculosis.
STANLEY M. COLEMAN.

The Genesis of Schizophrenia. (*Char. and Personality*, vol. iv, p. 185, Mar., 1936.) Bruel, O.

The writer considers that contrary to what most people teach, schizophrenics and schizoids possess the ability to feel in a truly extensive degree. Bleuler's autism consists in blocking all unpleasant emotions from consciousness. The prepsychotic schizoid is a hypersensitive, highly-strung individual. The writer suggests on this theory that the nursing of schizophrenics by nurses of schizoid type is indicated. This has been tried by various psychiatrists with a certain measure of success. It is pointed out that the morbidity amongst schizophrenics in Sweden is lowest in the northern and middle areas where the inhabitants are predominantly schizothymic. In Iceland also where the typology corresponds largely with north Sweden, the morbidity is low.
G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Concerning Schizophrenia and Manic-depressive Psychoses Associated with Pregnancy and Childbirth. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xcii, p. 1331, May, 1936.) Davidson, G. M.

The writer points out that the prognosis of post-partum schizophrenia is better than in the usual forms, probably due to the fact that only catatonic cases were met with. Hebephrenics or simple deteriorations were encountered. The factors at work appear to be (a) mental conflicts, (b) neuro-endocrine and metabolic changes and reticulo-endothelial dysfunction, (c) precipitating and aggravating factors supplied by the pregnancy, etc.

The treatment in most cases consisted in giving theelin, sometimes with antuitrin-S or thyroid. Excited cases responded to prolonged baths followed by occupational therapy. Excited, agitated or anxiety cases should not be given theelin and thyroid.
G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Clinico-pathologic Study of Alzheimer's Disease. (*Arch. Neur. and Psychiat.*, vol. xxxvi, p. 293, Aug., 1936.) Rothschild, D., and Kasanin, J.

The writers describe five cases of Alzheimer's disease. Two cases of toxic psychoses are reported in which lesions of the type occurring chiefly in Alzheimer's disease and in senile disorders were shown. These observations suggest that the changes characteristic of Alzheimer's disease and of senile dementia represent a general type of tissue reaction which may be caused by different exogenous and endogenous factors. It seems possible that toxic factors may modify the normal ageing process, giving rise to syndromes like Alzheimer's disease. From a psychological standpoint, Alzheimer's disease is characterized by profound regression to primitive infantile levels of behaviour, with a tendency to compensatory phenomena. The suggestion is made that one is dealing with an attempt at rejuvenescence in the face of an abnormal ageing process.
G. W. T. H. FLEMING.