

illustrations, both in black and white and in colour, especially the latter, are clear.

The most interesting point about the case is the absence of apoplectic symptoms, in spite of the *post-mortem* evidence of hæmorrhage into the brain substance. One could have wished that the author had referred to the part played possibly by the numerous punctiform and miliary hæmorrhages in the cortex in the production of the epileptiform symptoms.

J. BARFIELD ADAMS.

Nomadism, or the Wandering Impulse, with Special Reference to Heredity. (Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1915.) *Davenport, C. B.*

This is the second of the author's studies on the "feebly inhibited," and in the preface he justifies the use of that term, on the ground that, while the term "mind" could doubtless be stretched to cover the emotional phenomena he is dealing with, it seems best to consider the hereditary basis of the emotions separately. "The chief problem in administering society is that of disordered conduct; conduct is controlled by emotions, and the quality of the emotions is strongly tinged by the hereditary constitution."

There are numerous varieties of the phenomena here dealt with, from racial nomadism, through the professional tramp, to the pathological fugue. The author selects "nomadism" as the best general term, largely because it has a racial connotation, for "from a racial point of view all hereditary characters are racial." That is to say that the author regards a tendency to wander as in some degree a normal tendency of man. In this connection he briefly discusses (1) the wandering instincts of the anthropoid apes; (2) the migratory tendencies of most primitive peoples; (3) the frequency of running away among children; and (4) the "love of adventure" in adolescence.

The study is based, like other studies in the same series, on family histories deposited in the Eugenics Record Office. They are of diverse origin, from some forty contributors, mostly trained workers. In no case was it expected that the pedigrees would be used to investigate nomadism, so that bias may be eliminated. In nearly a third of the cases there is no knowledge of the parents. All the histories, 100 in number, are here reproduced, and the results are also presented in a tabular form.

The most obvious fact revealed by the tables is that nomadism is chiefly found in the male sex; in the principal fraternities there are 168 male nomadics to 15 females. It is therefore argued that nomadism is a sex-linked trait, and that it follows the hereditary conditions prevailing in such cases. By hypothesis, therefore, the tendency should be traced through the maternal side, though the mother may not show the trait somatically, while it is usually shown in her father or her mother's father. Half the sons and none of the daughters of such a mother (if she married a normal man) show the nomadic tendency. If the mother is somatically nomadic, and the father not, all the sons are nomadic. If both parents are nomadic, then all the children of either sex are nomadic. If the father is nomadic, then half the sons and half the daughters are nomadic. When these hypo-

thetical results are compared to the actual results revealed by the tables it is found that there is a fair degree of concordance. There is, especially, no clear case of a nomadic daughter whose father is known to be non-nomadic.

It has been argued that nomadism may be regarded as an essentially male secondary sexual character, like the beard. The author seems justified in putting aside this hypothesis since nomadism is by no means confined to males. In certain matings daughters as well as sons are nomadic, so that the distribution of nomadic traits among the offspring may be regarded as a function of the particular mating.

Nomadism is frequently associated in the same family, and even the same individual, with abnormal mental and nervous states. Davenport finds "extraordinarily common" periodic psychoses with depression and frequently suicide, fits of temper, migraine, epilepsy, hysteria, spreeds, and sexual outbreaks. All these states are marked by periodicity, and lead to the conclusion that nomadism is a trait that belongs especially to families subject to periodic emotional disturbances. Nomadism is not therefore to be regarded as a "symptom" or "equivalent" of epilepsy, hysteria, etc.; the relation is one of concomitancy. "The nomadic impulse is, in all the cases, one and the same unit character." Nomadism is associated with other sorts of periodic behaviour because we are concerned with an individual who belongs to a "race of periodics" whose inhibitions are from time to time paralysed. Nomads showing feeble-mindedness and dementia belong to a special class. They lack the inhibitory mechanism, so that their nomadism is no longer explosive but chronic, like that of the child or the chimpanzee.

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

2. Clinical Neurology and Psychiatry.

Inheritance of Temperament. (Publication 236 of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1915.) Davenport, C. B.

The author here seeks to analyse the distribution in families of temperament, as expressed in mood, and to test the hypothesis that it is dependent on heredity. Mood is divided into two main classes (as seen in manic depressive states): the hyperkinetic or exalted, and the hypokinetic or depressed. The hyperkinetic temperament is divided into two grades: a less developed called nervous (and sometimes sanguine), and a more developed called choleric. The hypokinetic temperament is likewise divided into two grades: a less developed called phlegmatic, and a more developed called melancholic. In some families there is a prevailing tendency to the first class of conditions, and in other families for the second class, while yet other families show a mixed state. How can we bring under one general scheme the inheritance of these various types of mood? After several trials the following hypothesis was selected to test. There is in the germplasm a factor E , which induces the more or less periodic occurrence of an excited condition (or an exceptionally strong reactivity to exciting conditions), and its absence e , which results in an absence of extreme excitability. There are also the factor C , which makes for normal