

persecutory delusions and auditory hallucinations. Intelligence, the duration of attack, the occurrence of a previous attack and alcoholic habits have little effect upon the occurrence of hallucinations.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Case of Ludwig Lewisohn.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) *Bragman, L. F.*

A contribution to the study of creative genius, in the life-history of Lewisohn, the American author. The effect of his Hebrew birth, the racial animosity which he had to face, and the unhappy marriage which he contracted, are considered. Very interesting psycho-analytic considerations are shown to be involved.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Alzheimer's Disease.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, September, 1931.) *Lowenberg, K., and Rothschild, D.*

Two cases of this disease were studied. Both tend to throw doubt on the view that the disease is always a manifestation of premature senility. One of the patients gave birth to a healthy child several years after the onset of the mental disorder. The authors are led to the conclusion that Alzheimer's disease is really a syndrome with a multiplicity of ætiological factors. While the majority of the cases are related to atypical senile processes, there is a smaller group in which the causative agents appear to be toxic or organic diseases independent of senility.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Rigid Personality as a Factor in Psychoses.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, August, 1931.) *Muncie, W.*

The author considers "rigidity" of personality to be compounded in no fixed proportions of many factors, such as obstinacy, aggressiveness, pride, sensitiveness, a rigid code of personal ethics, an inability to make concessions, etc. He then describes five cases in which this rigidity was a prominent feature, determining certain reaction patterns and attitudes, and also bringing about certain successes. In each case the rigidity jeopardized the recovery of the patient, introducing complicating features which cast grave doubts on the diagnosis of depression as the essential process.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Thyroid Psychoses.* (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, September, 1931.) *Ingham, S. W., and Neilsen, J. M.*

The authors, after discussing the literature, describe four cases of their own in which recovery followed treatment of the thyroid condition. They consider that although fear and apprehension are the classical signs, the psychosis may simulate manic-depressive insanity in either of its phases, dementia præcox, delirium, or any toxic psychosis. Two of their four cases benefited by irradiation.

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