ment because it is no longer useful. This repression succeeds better with some groups of tendencies than with others. Sexual cravings, because of certain conditions which have frequently been referred to, are able to elude the repressive force and prolong their existence in disguised but disturbing forms. For this reason the repressed infantile sexuality becomes the main impulsive force in the formation of symptoms, and the essential part of the content of the unconscious, the Œdipus complex, becomes the nuclear complex of the neuroses. [J.]

2. PSYCHOSES.

Masoin, P. THE DIAZO REACTION IN EPILEPSY. [Bull. de l'Acad. Roy. de Méd. de Belgique, July, 1919.]

P. Masoin has studied the diazo reaction of the urine in epilepsy. This reaction was not obtained in normal subjects. He concludes that the absence of a diazo reaction in epilepsy justifies a favorable prognosis; its presence implies a fatal prognosis in two thirds of the cases, and is regarded as evidence of a state of metabolic derangement and autointoxication.

Brunton, G. L. CYTOLOGY OF THE CEREBROSPINAL FLUID IN MENTAL DISEASE. [Journ. Mental Science, October, 1919.]

G. L. Brunton emphasizes the importance of an examination of the cerebrospinal fluid in mental diseases and sees in it a valuable aid to diagnosis. In his hands such examination gave positive results not only in general paralysis, but in various other conditions, including mania, melancholia, epileptic insanity, delusional insanity, dementia praecox, and ordinary dementia. He regards Alzheimer's method as the best for the cytological examination of the cerebrospinal fluid; cells can be differentiated in a way not hitherto possible and a fair quantitative count can be made. The cells of the greatest diagnostic importance are the plasma cell, the phagocytic and the endothelial cell and the lymphocyte in excess. A high cell count with an excess of lymphocytes, together with the presence of plasma cells, is strong evidence of parasymphilitic lesion. To avert the after effects of lumbar puncture rest in bed is desirable.

Rossi, S. C. PSYCHOSES FOLLOWING INFLUENZA. [Anal. de la Facultad di Med., December, 1919.]

S. C. Rossi records nine cases of manic-depressive psychosis in patients aged from eighteen to forty-five, which developed during the period of asthenia characteristic of convalescence from influenza. He attributes the psychosis to suprarenal insufficiency (produced by influenza), on the following grounds: (1) Other observers have noted manic-depressive psychoses following influenza. (2) It is well known that influenza affects the suprarenals, and that adrenalin in small doses is one of the means of treating the infection. (3) Other patients with the manic-depressive psychosis under Rossi's care showed signs of suprarenal insufficiency without having had influenza.