

insight into the nature of the mental defects treated and what was essentially needed for each patient.

From the gratifying results obtained from this trial period I am convinced of the lasting value of such therapeutic remedies, and believe that rhythmic dancing, especially outdoors in natural surroundings and modified for men patients, has come to stay, and should be more generally employed. These new principles of mental therapy should be applied not only to mild nervous disorders in private practice but in sanatoria and modern public institutions. Not a little advantage is gained in making them very flexible in application and as an integral part of country life. Properly equipped such an experiment calls out the very best initiative of teachers, nurses and physicians. In our experience there are many values in the novel and bizarre not obtainable in systems and routines haltingly or indifferently applied. So long as we train neurotics for normal life interests and the natural social activities that grow out of them, we cannot go far amiss in mental therapeutics. [Author's abstract.]

Ichok, G. THE TUBERCULOUS PSYCHONEUROSIS. [Zeit. f. Tuberkulose, February, 1920.]

The author states that while well-marked psychoses following pulmonary tuberculosis are extremely rare, a psychoneurosis is often seen. Three forms of the disease may be distinguished according as it occurs (1) in cases with an hereditary history and in latent and abortive forms of pulmonary disease; (2) in chronic pulmonary tuberculosis; (3) in acute cases. This classification, however, must not be taken too rigidly, as a separation of the different forms is not always possible. Tuberculous intoxication may not play the chief part in all cases, because, on the one hand, the psychoneurotic symptoms do not always increase with the progress of the pulmonary lesion, and, on the other hand, the characteristic picture may be fully developed with very slight lesions, or with merely a disposition to tuberculosis. It is suggested that the chief cause of the psychoneurosis is the consciousness of an organic inferiority.

Amrein. ACTION OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE PSYCHE AND CHARACTER. [Corr.-Blatt. für Schw. Aerzte, August 28, 1919.]

The author devotes a long study to this subject without reference to the large literature. As a sanitarium phthisiologist he is evidently guided by his own finds but his paper is written with some reference to one on the same subject by Romisch in 1904. The psyche in this connection implies the inner existence and the character the outward expression. Naturally the specialist in a long career sees all kinds from irresponsibles to heroes. The psyche and character of the child victim may be omitted in this connection although when the adult consumptive

has suffered in childhood, tuberculosis as well, the early experiences must powerfully affect the mind in one way or another. Most consumptives are young adults or old adolescents whose characters have not had time for development. Other writers on the subject seem to have assumed tacitly that the victim has reached sufficiently mature years to show some responsibility. In such a case there must be a great conflict between the inclinations and the fate which seems to impend. The beneficent effects of work upon the character may not be realized if the subject is an invalid and under strict treatment. The victims are often young people of unusual talent and promise who are ambitious for themselves or others. Incapacitated for work they must think and speculate. They become introspective and upon the one subject of their disease. They read popular articles about consumption and how to avoid and cure it. A singular fact even on the part of the scholarly is a form of the deterioration of taste. While at first one notes the taste for the classics these are in time replaced by stories of crime and its detection. The decline does not stop here for the next step is to read the frivolous and then to be indifferent to all literature. Even the newspapers pall. In other words the patient suffers from a progressive secondary neurasthenia which goes far to explain his mental make-up. He may even be classed as psychasthenic with his obsessions of using the thermometer at all times and much behavior of the same type. If fairly able to get about he indulges in alcohol and flirtations and his motto seems to be *carpe diem*. Idleness is largely responsible for all moral delinquencies, plus the tendency to make the most of what remains of life. His behavior is not paradoxical but about what it would be under his peculiar circumstances.