
The experiment here dealt with was devised to test the possibility of achieving a technique for measuring the degree of persistence of moods experimentally aroused in young children. The 20 cases fell into three groups. In nine disappointment appeared to produce persistent effects of a diminishing order of magnitude; in eight cases the persistent effect was of an increasing order of magnitude; in three cases no noticeable effects could be observed. In several cases a persisting conative activity showed itself in general behaviour, but the emotional disturbance had a greater effect on the natural rate of working. The experimental results are shown to fit well with general observations. Interest and fatigue influenced the results in a few cases, while two children, at least, delayed the effect of disturbance by a determined effort.

C. S. R.


Only in a minority of cases is it possible to identify a person from gait. Recognition of sex is not always reliable; in particular, correct and incorrect judgments concerning men are about equally balanced; women, however, are mostly recognized as women. Self-identification as well as identification of others from gait differs from identification based on other forms of expression; one’s own gait is easily recognized but another person’s gait seems to present considerable difficulty. Generally the judges interpret gait as well as other forms of expression psychologically, describing mainly emotional personality traits. Gait is in itself a complete form of expression and seems to characterize a person independently of all other forms. The comparison of the judgments from gait with those from other forms of expression shows considerable agreement. Judgments of others from gait show poor identification but good characterization, while in self-judgment we find very good identification. Subjects seem to be reluctant to judge their own gait objectively, even if they do not recognize themselves.

C. S. R.

**NEUROSES AND PSYCHONEUROSES**


In a hysterical patient studied by Rossenda it was possible to observe a
spasm of the retinal artery during blindness caused by suggestion. Such observations, with the arguments advanced, contribute to the pathogenic interpretation of these hysterical phenomena.

R. G. G.

PSYCHOSES


At the Boston Psychopathic Hospital for the past 14 years, out of 26,000 admissions, only 22 were found to have pernicious anaemia. The histories of six cases are given and the points of interest in all of the cases discussed. Two of them illustrate how an early case may be regarded as a psychoneurosis and various psychological factors held responsible for the condition, whereas an examination of the blood would have revealed the correct diagnosis much earlier. Many cases are probably overlooked in the incipient stage and emphasis should be laid upon such symptoms as numbness of the hands and feet, tingling or paraesthesiae of various sorts together with feelings of weakness and gastrointestinal symptoms. Fifteen of the patients were males, eight were females. The average age was 50 years. It is likely that pernicious anaemia exists at least one to two years before it is actually diagnosed. Occasionally the mental symptoms were discovered and treated before it was realised the patient had pernicious anaemia. The apparent range of time between the onset of the anaemia and the onset of mental symptoms varied from one day in two cases, less than a week in four more cases, up to a year or longer in six cases. The question as to how much the psychosis is due to pernicious anaemia, how much to constitutional factors, may be partially decided by a study of the family history and the prepsychotic personality. The family history was negative for mental disease in 16 cases, positive in five, and unknown in two. Sixteen patients were listed as having a normal personality, five as having an unstable one, and two as unknown. There is thus little evidence of a constitutional or hereditary factor as playing an important part in the production of the mental disorder. Concerning the type of mental picture shown in these 23 cases, there were very few clear-cut reaction types. Eleven showed the picture of an organic confusion; three depression; two manic excitement; four a schizophrenic type of reaction; two showed the mixed picture of a schizoaffective reaction; and one was called a psychoneurosis. It is of interest to note that mental disease may come on while the patient is getting liver treatment and has a normal blood count, and that improvement of the mental condition does not necessarily correlate with improvement of the anaemia.

C. S. R.
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