

disease they also found a distinctive blood sugar curve. In these cases the curves tended to become flat and showed a terminal rise. Similarly, in the endocrinopathies flat, rising curves were obtained. This test showed promise both as a means of confirming psychiatric diagnosis as between manic-depressive and schizophrenic cases, and as a method of determining the glycogenic function of the liver.

C. S. R.

### PROGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.

[225] **The treatment of neurosyphilis and paresis with malaria.**—H. GOLD-SMITH and R. ROCKWOOD. *Amer. Jour. of Syphilis*, 1927, xi, 165.

THE authors have treated 14 cases of paresis and cerebrospinal syphilis with double tertian malaria, followed by intensive arsphenamine treatment. Eight of the patients have returned to their usual work. Two died, one from syphilitic heart disease during an attack of ague and the other from cystitis and terminal pneumonia. They recommend the treatment for selected early cases of paresis.

J. G. GREENFIELD.

[226] **The malaria treatment of general paresis.**—A. FERRARO and T. C. C. FONG. *Jour. Nerv. Ment. Dis.*, 1927, lxxv, 225.

THE results claimed in the published accounts are tabulated, and the methods employed by the authors and others are fully discussed. The effect on individual symptoms and on serological reactions is then dealt with, as is the relationship of results to the special technique employed.

Finally the possible explanations of results are reviewed and the authors suggest that the action of the raising of the body temperature in destroying the spirochaetes is probably responsible for improvements.

R. G. G.

[227] **The intraventricular treatment of paresis.**—R. CESTAN and M. PERES. *Jour. Nerv. Ment. Dis.*, 1927, lxxvi, 227.

A FAIRLY extensive experience of injecting salvarsan intraventricularly leads to the conclusion that when the ventricular fluid is rich in albumin and cells the physician can with impunity inject up to 6 mgm. of salvarsan. In proportion as the ventricular fluid is or becomes less rich in albumin and cells the dose must be rapidly diminished to 1 mgm., which is always tolerated. Although serological reactions are often considerably modified by this treatment neither the symptoms nor the clinical course of the disease seem to be much altered.

R. G. G.

- [228] **Afenil treatment in schizophrenia** (Zur Afeniltherapie der Schizophrenie).—U. BERNDT and K. KÜLLE. *Münch. med. Woch.*, 1926, 1191.

THIS is an account of a trial of afenil, which was given as advised by Dodel, 10 c.cm. intravenously every three days, 20 to 30 doses being given in each case. Thirteen cases were tried, varying in age between 18 and 50 and of all types, early, relapsing and chronic : all were definite schizophrenics.

Of the 13, two only showed any benefit which could be attributed to the treatment : of these one, a case of gradual development with attacks of hallucination and excitement, improved greatly, gained insight, and was discharged after remaining quiet and accessible for two months. The other was that of a patient who had had a previous remission of four years' duration, and who relapsed after an improved period of nine months following the treatment. The rest showed no benefit at all, though many of them were early first-attack cases, while others had had previous remission. The authors conclude that afenil is shown by their results to be harmless, but quite ineffective even as an aid to improvement in schizophrenia.

M. R. B.

- [229] **The need for co-operation between the legal profession and the psychiatrist in dealing with the crime problem.**—WILLIAM A. WHITE. *Amer. Jour. of Psychiat.*, 1927, vii, 493.

SOCIETY has the right to segregate the dangerous antisocial types so long as they continue dangerous. This means largely doing away with fixed sentences, at least for certain types of crime, and making the return to freedom conditional upon some change in the individual that gives one a right to suppose that perhaps he will function more effectively as a social unit than he has in the past. It means the elimination of punishment as a vengeance motive and its retention only if used for definitely constructive ends for conditioning conduct ; also the gradual transformation of prisons into laboratories for the study of human behaviour and the conditioning of human conduct. The concept of responsibility, which is largely a point of metaphysics, should be discarded. It would be an excellent thing for those legal authorities who have to deal with crime to serve internships in psychiatric clinics and prisons in the course of their educational preparation, just as physicians do in their various medical specialities.

C. S. R.