

seem, that, even with the recent advances in serology along the lines followed by Wasserman and Platt, it will be some time before the clinician can say definitely that syphilis is, or is not, necessary for the production. This is the only position an observer can fairly take, with our present knowledge, and a non-judicial leaning to one or other view is evidenced by the assumption of any other attitude.

One of the writers is engaged at the present time in a study of complement deviation in the cerebro-spinal fluid of paretics, and the results will be announced at a later date.

The history of our patient is as follows:

D. H., aged 16, Hebrew, single; public school education.

*Family History.*—Father living; apparently in good health. Denies having had syphilis. Is somewhat alcoholic, and has the reputation of having been a frequenter of disorderly resorts, and a friend of women of the demi-monde. His wife in describing her husband spoke of him as being "pretty sporty." Other and more definite information has been obtained which would point to the father having been exposed on many occasions, and it is the opinion of the writer, because of further evidence that will be adduced, that he has had syphilis.

Patient's mother is 54 years of age, and is in good health. She is a Jewess, and of a neurotic temperament.

There is no consanguinity between the parents.

History of the mother's pregnancies is as follows: Married when 18; her first four pregnancies all ended in miscarriages. She next gave birth to a healthy child, who is living, and has shown no evidences of physical or mental derangement. The next child lived only three weeks and was abnormal—possibly a monster. Of the next three children—two boys and a girl—the boys are healthy and well developed; the girl is distinctly neurotic, but a clever musician. The child born next lived only seven months and was never healthy. Following this there were twins, who lived only five days, dying in convulsions. The patient was the last child.

*Personal History.*—His personal history is interesting. He weighed eleven pounds at birth; was said to have been an unusually healthy child; had no evidences of any disease; no rash or other signs of congenital syphilis. When about three weeks old his nurse in cleaning out his mouth scratched the hard palate with her finger; this evidently became infected, and a doctor, who was called in said the child was suffering