

may be categorized so far as his personality is concerned in one of three groups, such, for example, as Adler suggests:

(a) Paranoiac, *i.e.*, the egocentric individuals, the reformed, the altruist, the seeker of the lime-light, or the ill-natured and unappreciative personality.

(b) Inadequate personality, which includes the mentally defective, the feeble-minded.

(c) The emotional, unstable personality, excitable, irritable, hyper-sensitive.

Now, inasmuch as the pathological personality may form that large class known as the border-line type, it is obvious that a training in psychiatric diagnosis requires a fundamental knowledge of psychology.

Unless the physician can appreciate that human conduct is dependent upon certain fundamental reactions, unless he can understand the patient in all these relations, his task of disposal and treatment is a difficult one. Consider the immense multitude of people outside of institutions, who would be the better for such care. Consider the numbers under supervision, or parole—recall, in fact, the myriads of border-land types in every country, and we can gauge the magnitude of the physician's task in diagnosis and disposal.

It is just in these very matters that the physician is apt to fall far short of the ideal, to lose patience, to become apathetic, indifferent or critical. It is a lamentable, but well established fact, that many of these psycho-neurotics, as a result of mal-adaptation, or what not, commit offences of a major or minor importance, and are regarded merely as infractors of the law and not as psychopaths.

The jails and reformatories are filled with people of this kind, who should long ago have come under the skilled attention of the psychiatrist.

Consult the statistics of Bernard Glueck, and you will realize that feeble-mindedness is a matter of crime and degeneracy, that it is a great economic burden on any country, and that its recognition is an urgent matter of Governmental policy.

In Auburn prison alone 67.1 per cent. of the inmates were mental abnormalities. In Westchester County penitentiary 57 per cent. likewise were mentally pathological.

The general practitioner, as a rule, is more or less in despair over mental cases unless the type he be confronted with is an outspoken one of mania, dementia, or melancholia.

One can well picture the helplessness of the average physician who is consulted about a feeble-minded child as to disposal or treatment, or any other information.