

The clinical method aims to make complete biographies in every case, beginning with the family history, and including this all points of interest, going back as far as possible, to obtain all important positive or negative evidence. Then tracing the development of the individual up to the date of the present illness, and in so doing the patient's norm is ascertained and all accidents or events, which might tend in any way to modify the character of this norm are also learned. Then the chapter dealing with the incidents which have probably led up to the development of the psychosis brings us to the consideration of the present mental status and physical condition of the individual, and it is hardly necessary to emphasize the importance of a thorough and searching analysis and examination. The course of the condition; its termination, the examination of the issue pathologically, in case of death, or the subsequent course of the case after discharge, in those who have recovered, round up the survey and tend to make it complete and exhaustive. Such is the clinical method, and although in many respects it was distinctly progressive it had one disadvantageous feature: that it tried to force every case into one or another disease group, something palpably impossible, so that many eminent authorities are agreed that, as Ziehen has expressed it, a single ideal classification of the psychoses may be impossible.

Kraepelin, the man who probably has done more for modern psychiatry than any other leader of recent times (not forgetting Wernicke's pioneer and inestimably invaluable work), in 1890 established the first laboratory where psychological and morbid psychology could be studied side by side, to the very great advantage of both. That finer analyses, a better correlation of ascertained facts, and a more rational consideration of the phenomena of mental disease naturally resulted, is not to be wondered at.

Kraepelin continued this splendid work at Heidelberg until two years ago, attracting students from all quarters of the globe, having for his pathologist Nissl, whose work on the histologic and pathologic side has made him equally well known to students of the literature. At the present time Kraepelin is chief of the Clinic of Psychiatry in Munich, doubtless the first clinic in the world.

Just a word in regard to the *individual method*, which is of most recent development and bids fair to become the greatest advance psychiatry has yet made.

In this the questions are attacked from several standpoints, that of psychologist, pathologist, and physiological chemist, not working each one alone, but in unison; correlating results, obtained by laboratory methods, reducing to a minimum the personal equation and ascertaining the nature of the normal psyche; noting the manifestations of this same