

puzzling lectures were given on what for want of a better name was called metaphysics, the importance of sound psychological investigation was overlooked. Now the importance of intelligent research in the realm of Psychology is on all hands recognized as absolutely necessary both for diagnosis and treatment.

Even the much criticised work of Jung and Freud on the value of association tests must be frankly admitted as having the greatest practical utility. After Kraepelin left Heidelberg for Munich, Nissl is said to have relegated most of the psychological apparatus of Kraepelin to the attic—it is significant that gradually it has all been rescued from the oblivion to which it was supposed to have been consigned, and is once more in use. Then again, while pathological research in the brain tissues is not discovering much that is new at the present time, the pathologist finds other worlds to conquer—blood conditions, body fluids of all kinds to be analyzed, disturbance of gland functions to scrutinize, in fact again the problems become identical with those of general medicine. Vaso-motor, secretory and trophic disorders are studied, in fact a good clinical examination of an important psychosis requires the work of some hours.

In nine cases out of ten your prognosis will depend on what you learn of the life history (not the present history) of your patient, and its importance should be appreciated by you. In practically every case of Dementia Præcox the early history will give you the clue to the diagnosis, and when you think that after all, ordinarily the question narrows down, not to how does this individual compare with the rest of mortals around him but rather how does he compare with himself, you will see where you stand. In short in any study of mental disease you must scan closely:

The family history,  
The whole life history of the patient,  
The history of the disease, and  
The present condition.