

PSYCHIATRY

Hitler's Personality Called Paranoid, Infantile, Sadistic

His Weeping Fits and Attacks of Melancholy Point To Neurotic Personality, Struggle Against Effeminacy

AMERICAN psychiatrists, asked by Science Service to diagnose Hitler's personality, pronounce him "paranoid," "infantile," "sadistic," and "self-destructive."

The man who threatened to plunge Europe into war has qualities that would cause him under ordinary circumstances to be committed to an institution or disregarded as a crank.

Dr. Karl A. Menninger, chief of staff of the Menninger Clinic, Topeka, Kans., author of "Man Against Himself," replied to Science Service's telegraphic inquiry as follows:

"For many years psychiatrists have recognized the existence of a form of mental disease characterized by enormous ambitiousness, ideas of grandeur, absurd theories of origin or mission, unshakable convictions that other people are the aggressors, the persecutors, often combined with considerable ability to inspire others to believe these things, however fantastic, however dangerous.

"Under ordinary circumstances, such individuals are committed to institutions or disregarded as cranks. Given a sufficiently inflammable society, they may become religious or military leaders. Their egotism, ruthlessness, cruelty, misrepresentation and unscrupulousness are all justified in their own minds and in the minds of their followers for whom the laws of reality no longer have any validity.

Self-Destructive

"In the long run, of course, this is self-destructive, but in the meantime society may be the victim of fanatical destructiveness. Whether or not this applies to the man who has designated himself 'the leader' and who screams and shouts his fervent adjurations and accusations to his excited followers, I leave to your judgment.

"It would be unscientific to make a diagnosis without seeing the patient. But there is no reason why the sane portions of the earth's population should not recognize these symptoms and take steps to protect themselves."

Dr. Oscar J. Raeder, Associate Pro-

fessor of psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine, responded with the following opinion:

Infantile

"Hitler is an infantile personality. His temper tantrums, his weeping and similar emotional manifestations under stress are childhood fixations. He is amoral and probably sadistic. His immature judgment accounts for his harebrained exploits, which have so far been rather successful like the first petty larcenies of the untrained child. Her warnings unheeded, mother world's patience has been sorely taxed, and she now appears to be driven to use the birch."

To Dr. A. A. Brill, eminent psycho-

analyst of New York City, "Hitler is a psychopathic paranoid personality whose sole need is hatred. All his actions are dominated by this sadistic leitmotif. His hatred for Jews and his love for Germans are mere excuses for his algolagnia, that is, for his pleasure in pain. But such lust for destruction always carries with it self-destruction."

A "Sissy"

That Hitler is also a "sissy" behind his aggressive appearance was indicated by Dr. Harold D. Lasswell, professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago and the William A. White Psychiatric Foundation, Washington, D. C. Dr. Lasswell is author of "Psychopathology and Politics."

"Hitler's own nature demands periodic crises," he said. "We know from the testimony of men who have worked with him that Hitler suffers from frequent attacks of melancholy and gives way to weeping fits. These neurotic symptoms appear in personalities who must struggle against impulses toward passivity and effeminacy. After Hitler gives in to these weaknesses, he is driven to preserve his self-respect by daring and



LIFE ON THE HEIGHTS

These Rocky Mountain pipits are found only in the highest life zone of the Western Mountains; they love the Alpine meadows where the earth is rich with flowers for a short summer. The group shown here is part of a great panoramic exhibit recently installed at the Colorado Museum of Natural History by Curator Robert J. Niedrach and George P. Young, against a forty-foot panorama painting of Long's Peak by C. Waldo Love. The exhibit includes more than 8,000 reproductions of flowers in celluloid and wax, by WPA workers.