Psychiatric Dictionary

A

a In Rorschach scoring, animal response, increasing percentage of which indicates lack of imagination.

AA Abbreviation for (1) achievement age (q.v.);

(2) Alcoholics Anonymous (q.v.).

 A_{obj} Rorschach scoring symbol for a response derived from or connected with the body of an animal; such a response is more commonly scored as a (q.v.).

Abadie's sign (a-ba-dez') (Jean Marie Abadie, French ophthalmologist, 1842–1932) An early sign in tabes in which there is loss of deep pain from pressure on the testes or tendo Achilles.

abalienation *Obs.* Loss or failing of the senses or mental faculties.

abasia (à-bā'z(h)ē-à) Inability to walk. See astasis-abasia.

abderite *Obs.* Stupid person. Abdera was a town in Thrace, the birthplace of Democritus; its inhabitants, however, had the character of being more stupid than other people.

ABEPP American Board of Examiners in

Professional Psychology.

Aberdeen system See system, Aberdeen.

aberration, mental Any morbid deviation from normal activity; when used today the term ordinarily does not relate to deviations in intelligence.

abient See avoidant.

abilities, primary mental See test, PMA.

ability Power to perform, whether physical, mental, moral or legal, with the connotation that the act can be performed now, without further education or training. *Aptitude* refers to the level of competence to which a person can be brought by a specified level of training.

abiotrophy (ab-i-ot'-rō-fē) Premature loss of vitality of cells or tissues. The longevity of the heart, for instance, may be appreciably

shorter than that of other organs of the body, leading to early disturbance in function which upsets homeostasis or organ-equilibrium. Lewis has shown that, in schizophrenia, the heart is hypoplastic and hence functionally inadequate. He believes that the shut-in type of personality, so often found in patients with schizophrenia, is a secondary result of cardiovascular inadequacy.

The concept of abiotrophy was used by Gowers as an explanation of possible dementia, viz., that precocious aging of the central nervous system was due to limited viability of the nerve cells concerned. Such an explanation, however, exaggerates the similarities and overlooks the very marked differences between the different members of the organic dementia group.

ablation Removal or interruption of function of a bodily part or organ, especially by surgical means.

ablutomania Morbid impulse to wash or bathe, or incessant preoccupation with thoughts of washing or bathing; seen often in obsessive-compulsive psychoneurosis.

abnormal psychology That division of psychology devoted to the study of mental

disorders and psychopathology.

aboiement (à-bwà-mäN') Obs. Involuntary production of abnormal sounds. It is ofter, observed in schizophrenics who not infrequently, in advanced stages, make many animalistic sounds. See Gilles de la Tourette syndrome.

abortion, therapeutic Interruption of pregnancy for medical reasons. In 1969 and 1970, efforts to reform or repeal abortion laws had been mounted in a majority of states. In 1973, the United States Supreme Court stipulated that the only legal restriction to be imposed on first-trimester abortions was that the procedure be performed by, or under the direction of, a licensed physician. Since then, the abortion mortality rate has fallen faster than the maternal mortality rate. For the three years 1972 to 1974, the death-to-case rate for legal abortion in the United States was 3.9/100,000—approximately one-ninth the mortality rate for pregnancy and childbirth. (Willard Gates et al., Journal of the American Medical Association 237, 1977)

Since the Supreme Court decriminalization of medically conducted abortion (in Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton), controversy has focused on whether to make abortion services more widely available or to limit their availability. Different states (and also different countries) define the indications for medical abortion along a range of considerations, the major ones being: (1) risk to the pregnant woman's life, physical health or mental health; (2) risk to the physical or mental integrity of the child if born (the eugenic consideration); (3) rape or incest (the juridical consideration); and (4) effects on the existing family (the socioeconomic consideration).

aboulia Abulia (q.v.).

above and below When Adler uses this term, he implies the unconscious notion existing in every psyche, male or female, of femaleness as a degradation and maleness as an ideal. In other words, there is the conception of man as above and woman as below, femininity being a position of inferiority to be avoided while masculinity is a goal of superiority to be striven for.

ABPN American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc., established in 1934 as the official agency to examine and certify physicians as specialists (*diplomates*) in psychiatry, child psychiatry, neurology, and neurology with special competence in child neurology.

Abraham, Karl (1877–1925) First psychoanalyst in Germany; manic-depressive psychosis, pregenital stages, character types, symbolism.

abreaction The process of bringing to consciousness and, thus, to adequate expression, of material that has been unconscious (usually because of repression). Abreaction refers to the two aspects of a "complex"—the intellectual representation and the accompanying affect—and includes not only the recollection of forgotten memories and

experiences but also their reliving with appropriate emotional display and discharge of affect. The method used to bring the repressed material into consciousness is called *catharsis* (q.v.); the term abreaction technically refers to the end-result.

The term abreaction of emotion refers to the discharge of emotion in the course of psychotherapy. This process is usually facilitated by the patient's gaining awareness of the causal relationship between the previously undischarged emotion and his symptoms. When such a discharge of emotion occurs during psychotherapy, it is often possible for the patient to see the link between his current irrational behavior and his demands toward his therapist, as well as the forgotten earlier counterpart from which the emotional attitude originated. The patient is thereby enabled to modify his anachronistic, immature, incongruous, and unreal emotional demands in favor of more adequate and appropriate behavior.

abreaction, motor The living-out of an unconscious impulse through muscular or motor expression.

abscess, brain Abscess of the brain (purulent encephalitis, encephalopyosis) is an inflammatory condition due to the invasion of pyogenic microorganisms resulting in a circumscribed collection of pus in any part of the brain.

absence 1. Loss of consciousness in an hysterical attack. 2. Petit mal. See *epilepsy*.

absent-mindedness A tendency to be occupied with one's own thoughts to such degree that only inadequate attention is given to events that occur in external reality; consequently, memory may seem to be faulty, especially for routine and relatively insignificant happenings. Absentmindedness, then, is habitual inattention, but without the implication of severe pathology such as is associated with autism and withdrawal.

absent state The vacant, transfixed, dreamlike state characteristic of the patient with a temporal lobe seizure. Also characteristic of such seizures are hallucinations of smell or taste (the uncinate seizure; see *fit, uncinate*), a feeling of dreamlike detachment, and the experience of *panoramic memory*, in which the patient may feel that he is rapidly reenacting long periods of his life.

absorption Engrossment with one object or idea with inattention to others.

abstinence Self-denial; foregoing the indulgence of one's appetite, craving, or desire. In the case of *alcoholism* and addiction, abstinence refers to the habitual avoidance or denial of the substance in question.

The term is used with a slightly different meaning in relation to psychoanalytic treatment. Freud advocated that in certain conditions (anxiety hysteria and obsessional neurosis) analytic treatment be carried out in a state of abstinence. By this, he did not refer only to sexual abstinence, nor did he imply that the patient was to be denied any and every satisfaction. Rather, abstinence rules were directed at substitutions for symptoms and were aimed at preserving a level of frustration that was optimal for treatment response. The analyst was enjoined to oppose those activities, interests, pleasures, and habits of the patient that drained off anxiety that was better handled during treatment sessions.

abstinence syndrome Withdrawal syndrome. See *addiction*.

abstract attitude Categorical attitude. Goldstein has noted that one characteristic of the patient with an organic brain disorder is his relative inability to assume the abstract attitude or to shift readily from the abstract to the concrete (where thinking is determined by and cannot proceed beyond some immediate experience) or vice versa. The abstract attitude includes the following abilities: assuming a mental set voluntarily; shifting voluntarily from one aspect of a situation to another; keeping in mind simultaneously various aspects of a situation; grasping the essentials of a whole, and breaking a whole into its parts, and isolating these voluntarily; abstracting common properties; planning ahead ideationally; assuming an attitude to the merely possible; thinking or performing symbolically; and detaching the ego from the outer world.

abstraction "The drawing out or isolation of a content (e.g. a meaning or general character, etc.) from a connection, containing other elements, whose combination as a totality is something unique or individual, and therefore inaccessible to comparison." (Jung, PT) Abstraction is an activity that belongs to psychological functions in general, and Jung differentiates between abstracting thinking, abstracting feeling, abstracting sensation, and abstracting intuition.

abstractionism, systematic See dissociation, semantic.

absurdity In psychoanalysis, anything that is contradictory or incoherent or meaningless in a train of thought or a constellation of ideas.

abulia Absence of will-power or wish-power; the term implies that the individual has a desire to do something but the desire is without power or energy. Abulia itself is rare and with few exceptions occurs only in the schizophrenias. The more frequent disturbance in the will is a reduction or impairment (hypobulia) rather than a complete absence. Bleuler included abulia and hypobulia among the fundamental symptoms of the schizophrenias.

Social abulia means inactivity, focal or diffuse, of an individual toward the environment, due to inability to settle on a plan of action. There may be a desire to contact the environment, but the desire has no power of action.

abulic-akinetic syndrome See syndrome, akinetic-abulic.

abuse, alcohol See alcoholism.

abuse, child See syndrome, battered child.

academic underachievement disorder A pattern of failing grades or inadequate school performance despite adequate (or even superior) intellectual potential and a supportive environment.

academic (work) inhibition A form of performance anxiety concerning school or occupational tasks, manifested as examination anxiety, inability to write reports, or difficulty in concentration despite adequate intellectual or performance ability as demonstrated by previously adequate functioning.

acalculia (a-kal-kū'lē-a) A type of aphasia (q.v.) characterized by inability to perform arithmetic operations, seen most commonly with parietal lobe (retrolandic) lesions. Various groups of acalculia are recognized: (1) dyscalculia of the spatial type in which disturbance of spatial organization of numbers predominates and is often associated with spatial dyslexia, spatial agnosia, sensori-kinetic apraxia, somato-spatial apractognosia, and directional and vestibular oculomotor disorders; (2) predominance of alexia or agraphia for numbers and figures and (3) anarithmia, in which disturbances in the performance of arithmetic operations predominate. The second and third groups are often associated with speech disturbances and alterations in the process of verbalization.

acanthesthesia (a-kan-thes-thē'zhē-a) A type of paresthesia in which the patient experi-

ences a sensation of pinpricks.

acarophobia A morbid dread of mites. The meaning of the term has been extended to include a wide variety of small things, animate (e.g. worms) or inanimate (e.g. pins, needles). The fear may be associated with the idea that insects or worms are crawling beneath the skin, a thought not uncommon in patients suffering from alcoholism or drug addiction. It is perhaps also associated with Lilliputian ideas.

acatalepsia Impairment of the reasoning faculty; abnormal inability to comprehend.

acatalepsy *Obs.* Formerly used synonymously with *dementia*.

acatamathesia *Obs.* Inability to understand language. This is the perceptive (sensory) aspect of aphasia. See *speech disorders*.

acataphasia A form of disordered speech in which "the patients either do not find the expression appropriate to their thoughts, but only produce something with a similar sound ('displacement paralogia'), or they let their speech fall into quite another channel ('derailment paralogia'). A patient said he was 'wholly without head on the date' for 'he did not know the date': another complained he 'lived under protected police' instead of 'under the protection of police.' " (Kraepelin, *DP*) See *speech disorders*.

acathexis (a-ka-thek'sis) Lack of emotional charge or psychic energy with which an object would ordinarily be invested. Certain things, objective or subjective, hold no feelings or emotions for an individual; they are not infused with emotions; they are not charged or cathected. This idea has received special consideration in the field of psychoanalysis, with reference to the attachment of affects to ideas or thoughts. Some patients have an unusual capacity for separating affect from an idea that is highly significant to them. The affect may be transferred to an indifferent or inconsequential idea or it may attach itself to some unconscious material. Thus, one may express an idea or a series of ideas that seem to have no meaning or feeling for him. At times an entire complex may be utterly devoid of affect when it comes into consciousness.

acathisia (à-kath-i'zē-à) Also termed acathisia paraesthetica, acathisia psychasthenica, acathisia spastica. Inability to sit down because of the intense anxiety provoked by the thought of doing so. In acathisia spastica, the thought or act of sitting provokes hysterical convulsions.

Haase first applied the term (1955) to the inability to sit still and to other irritative, hyperkinetic symptoms that are sometimes seen as a complication of phenothiazine or reserpine therapy. See *akatizia*.

acceleration, developmental Precocious growth in any area—motor, perceptual, langauge, or social. An uneven growth pattern is often found in schizophrenia, with unusual sequences of retardation and acceleration especially in postural development. This has been interpreted by some as a disorder of timing and integration of neurological maturation. (Fish, B. Archives of Neurology 2, 1960)

accentuation, interface See network.

accessibility Receptivity to external influences. Inaccessibility is characteristic of withdrawal.

accessory Additional, contributory, or secondary as opposed to fundamental or primary. In psychiatry, the term is chiefly used in reference to the symptomatology of the schizophrenias, whose symptoms were divided by Bleuler into (1) fundamental or primary symptoms and (2) accessory or secondary symptoms.

accidental In psychoanalysis, accidental refers to that which is adventitious or of external origin, in contradistinction to that which is endowed or of inherent origin. Accidental experiences are of two kinds: dispositional, when they occur early in life and strongly influence character development; and definitive, when they occur later and act as precipitating or provocative agents.

accident, cerebrovascular Apoplexy; stroke; often abbreviated to CVA. Cerebrovascular accidents include those conditions in which gross cerebral damage, hemorrhage or softening follow a group of acute vascular disorders—cerebral thrombosis (82%), cerebral hemorrhage (15%) and cerebral embolism (3%).

Cerebral thrombosis is commonly a manifestation of cerebral arteriosclerosis and occurs in old age, although children with an acute infectious disease, young adults with

cerebral syphilis, and middle-aged alcoholics may also develop cerebral thrombosis.

Often the patient awakens in the morning completely paralyzed on one side of the body, monoplegic or aphasic. Thrombosis may also occur during the daytime, especially when the patient is inactive. Most cases recover with gradual recession of the pathologic change.

Cerebral hemorrhage may occur suddenly, without warning, as a true "stroke." It occurs most commonly as a result of arteriosclerosis or hypertension or as a complication of alcoholism, in the middle and older

age groups.

Children and young adults with congenital abnormalities of the cerebral vasculature, such as aneurysms, may likewise be afflicted. Since hypertension of the essential type is so frequently familial, death from cerebral hemorrhage correspondingly runs in families. The exciting causes are such acts as straining at stool, coughing, retching, coitus, violent emotion or heavy eating, all of which elevate the blood pressure. Thus, hemorrhage frequently occurs in the daytime during periods of activity. Unconsciousness occurs suddenly, and the patient topples over or falls to the ground. Coma may gradually deepen and the patient may die in a few hours. More common is a coma of several days' duration during which the patient may rouse a little and then lapse back into deep coma. Some patients gradually recover consciousness and survive the attack.

Cerebral embolism creates the same clinical picture as cerebral thrombosis, but emboli are usually multiple and the syndrome may be more bizarre. The commonest causes of emboli are: (1) diseases of the heart-as with auricular fibrillation and coronary occlusion with mural thrombi, which may break off and become embolic to the brain; or as in bacterial endocarditis, with valvular vegetations, which may become dislodged and flow to the brain; and (2) pulmonary diseases, with septic emboli lodging in a cerebral vessel, damaging the wall of the vessel and producing one or more brain abscesses and sometimes meningitis. Cerebral embolism comes on suddenly, without warning, and severe general symptoms appear as in hemorrhages. There may be convulsions and coma. Death

may occur in a few hours when the embolus has lodged in vital areas. The embolism may produce only softening, but most frequently hemorrhage also. It is the most frequent cause of sudden hemiplegia in childhood.

accident, intentional Huddleson stresses the consideration that accidents may be psychologically determined. "If an outraged employee with no other means of retaliation is so preoccupied, worried, or angry that he 'accidentally' thrusts his hand between gears and thus gains many weeks of compensation and care in lieu of employment and chagrin following the threat of imminent discharge, sociologic sympathy with his predicament ought not to obscure a psychologic estimate of his injury as virtually self-inflicted." (Huddleson, J.H. Accidents, Neuroses and Compensation 1932)

accident-proneness See proneness, accident. accident, purposeful See proneness, accident. accommodation Adjustment, especially of the eye for various distances.

- 1. Absolute accommodation is the accommodation of either eye separately; binocular accommodation is like accommodation in both eyes in coordination with convergence (the accommodation reflex). Accommodation occurs on shift of far to near vision, which is followed by thickening of the lens, convergence of the eyes, and constriction of the pupils. The most widely accepted theory of the mechanism of accommodation is that of Helmholtz: contraction of the ciliary muscle reduces the tension of the zonular muscle, thus permitting the elastic capsule of the lens to shape the lens and to increase its convexity. Convergence is produced by the action of both internal rectus muscles (innervated by N. III); pupillary constriction is produced by the action of the sphincter muscle of the iris (innervated by the short ciliary nerves, the parasympathetic outflow from the Edinger-Westphal nucleus to the ciliary ganglion).
- 2. Nerve accommodation is the rise in threshold during the passage of a constant, direct electric current because of which only the make and break of the current stimulate the nerve.
- 3. Social accommodation refers to the functional changes in habits and customs occurring in persons and groups in response to other persons and groups and in

response to the common environment. Such accommodation is typically made for the sake of social harmony. The concept of accommodation is used in analyzing attitudes in situations of superordination and subordination, as those of slavery, caste, class, status, and leadership. The social heritage, culture, and social organization are accommodations which are transmitted from generation to generation.

accreditation Certification as being of a prescribed or desirable standard; credentialling; often a voluntary process in which a program or facility is reviewed by a professional organization responsible for setting standards of quality or competence. See certification; licensure.

accretion Growth by simple addition of parts or coherence of elements. Used particularly in learning psychology to refer to the learning of responses through frequency of association rather than through any inherent relatedness.

acculturation Originally, a term of social anthropology-the transfer of one ethnical group's culture to another. By extension, the implanting in children of the customs, beliefs, and ideals held to be important by adults of the culture group: a process of cultural indoctrination of children, much of which is carried out by educators without a formal plan, as an unconscious attempt at disseminating their own beliefs.

accumulation See soteria.

accuracy compulsion A term used in Rorschach interpretation to refer to the tendency of the subject to be overly accurate in his responses to the cards; he makes many corrections and indicates dissatisfaction with his responses, but is unable to improve them.

acedia (a-se'de-a) Obs. A syndrome characterized by carelessness, listlessness, apathy, and melancholia.

acenesthesia (a-sen-es-thē'zhē-a) Absence of the feeling of physical existence, a common symptom in many psychiatric states.

acerophobia Fear of sourness.

acetylcholine A reversible acetic acid ester of choline, Ch₃ • CO • O • CH₂ • N(CH₃)₃ • OH. It is generally believed that acetylcholine, which is normally present in many parts of the body, is the sole mediator at autonomic synapses and in the transmission of the nerve impulse from motor nerve to skeletal

muscle. It has been suggested that acetylcholine is also the sole mediator for central synaptic transmission, although there is no direct evidence for this. More recent work suggests that other substances (viz. serotonin and norepinephrine) are more likely the central synaptic neurohumors. For the theory of mechanism of action of acetylcholine in nerve impulse transmission, see process, elementary.

achievement age (AA) The relationship between the chronological age and the age of achievement as established by standard achievement tests. The latter comprise a series of educational tests as distinguished from intelligence tests. Achievement age is synonymous with educational age and one speaks of educational or achievement quotient. When the latter is divided by the mental age (IQ) the result is expressed as accomplishment quotient (AQ).

Achilles reflex Ankle jerk. Tapping the tendo Achilles results in plantar flexion at the ankle due to contraction of the soleus and gastrocnemius muscles; the tibial nerve is both afferent and efferent for this reflex, and its center is $S_{1,2}$.

achluophobia Fear of darkness.

achromatic color response. A Rorschach scoring term for a response of black, gray, white, or mention of lack of color; also designated C'. See ShR.

achromatic response A Rorschach scoring term for a response of texture or of anything that is described as achromatic.

achromatopsia (a-krō-ma-top'sē-a) color blindness.

Ackerman, Nathan W. (1908-71) Russianborn American psychoanalyst; child and family therapy.

acme In psychoanalysis the highest point of pleasure in sexual intercourse.

acmesthesia (ak-mes-thē'zhē-a) Perception of sharp points by touch rather than by pain, acuesthesia.

acoasm Akoasm (q.v.).

acolasia Obs. Morbid intemperance or lust. aconuresis (à-kon-ū-rē'sis) See enuresis.

acoria (a-kō'rē-a) With Hippocrates it meant moderation in eating; but in Aretaeus it is used in regard to drink in the sense of insatiable desire. See bulimia. (Tuke, DPM)

acousma (a-kooz'ma) See akoasm. acousticophobia Fear of sounds. acquisitiveness Hoarding (q.v.).

acrai (ä'krī) *Obs.* An Arabian term, synonymous with nymphomania and satyriasis.

acrasia, acrasy (á-krā'zē-à, ak'rā-sē) Morbid intemperance in anything; at one time it was synonymous with *acratia*, debility, impotence, inefficiency.

acrescentism, emotional Emotional deprivation.

acro- (ak'rō) Combining form meaning pertaining to extremity or tip, from Gr. ákros, highest, topmost.

acrocinesia, acrocinesis Excessive movements, as those, for example, observed in the manic phase of manic-depressive psychosis.

acrocyanosis Blueness of the extremities, extending usually to the wrists and ankles; in psychiatric subjects, it is seen most frequently among schizophrenics, perhaps because in persons with an asthenic habitus the venous bed typically preponderates over the arterial.

acrodynia (-din'ē-à) Pink disease; erythredema polyneuropathy. A form of chronic mercury poisoning that occurs in infants and young children, mainly in the winter. It is characterized by irritability, purplish cold edema of the skin of the hands and feet, albuminuria, hematuria, and, in advanced cases, peripheral neuropathy and signs of cerebral and cerebellar involvement. Mortality is 5%, and neurologic involvement indicates a poor prognosis for complete recovery. Treatment is cystine, penicillamine, BAL, or other sources of sulfhydryl compounds.

acroesthesia (-es-thē'zhē-à) Increased sensitivity to pain in the extremities.

acrohypothermy Abnormal coldness of the extremities, seen often in patients with schizophrenia, in whom it is commonly associated with *acrocyanosis* (q.v.).

acromania Obs. Chronic incurable insanity.

acromegaly, acromegalia Hyperpituitarism produced usually by an acidophilic adenoma of the anterior lobe (epithelial portion) of the hypophysis; acromegaly is sometimes seen in individuals with no adenoma whose hypophysis shows an increase in number of eosinophilic cells in an otherwise normal gland. The disorder was first clearly defined by Pierre Marie in 1886 and hence is sometimes called *Marie's disease*. Acromegaly occurs in adults after the epiphysial lines have closed; acidophilic adenomas arising prior

to closure of the epiphysial lines in adolescence produce gigantism. Acromegaly consists of a localized increase in size of various structures (head, hands, feet, lips, jaw) resulting in a peculiar bodily configuration seen in no other disorder. Associated with this is profuse, offensive perspiration; bitemporal or frontal headache, excessive growth of hair, impotence, sterility, increase in basal metabolic rate, and glycosuria are also seen frequently. Bitemporal hemianopia develops with progression of the disorder.

Schizophrenic and manic-depressive psychoses are said to be rare in acromegaly, although it is quite regularly accompanied by striking alterations of personality: impulsiveness (c. 90% of cases), moodiness and mood swings (60%), anger outbursts (50%), and often periodic or constant somnolence.

acromicria (-mik' rē-à) Term used in constitutional medicine, especially by Kretschmer, and Pende, for the physical condition characterized by selective smallness and shortness of one or more extremities.

Benda proposed the term *congenital acromicria* to replace *mongolism* (q.v.) and to indicate his view that mongolism is a form of pituitary hypofunction that to some extent is the opposite of acromegaly.

acroparesthesia (-pār-es-the zē-a) Numbness, tingling, and/or other abnormal sensations of the extremities; seen frequently in organic disorders, especially peripheral nerve lesions, but by some the term is used only to refer to such unpleasant sensations occurring without demonstrable organic basis. Still less commonly, the term refers to an extreme degree of paresthesia.

acrophobia Fear of high places.

ACT Atropine coma therapy. See therapy, atropine coma.

act, completion of See ending, act.

act ending See ending, act.

act-habit Any personality trait, habitual mode of response, etc., that is an outgrowth of cultural-environmental attitudes, such as minimal attention, scientific rearing, oversolicitiousness, overwarmth, or overprotectiveness.

act, purposeless See act, symptomatic.

act, symptomatic A symptomatic act, like a symbol, is representative of some unconscious component. According to Freud, symptomatic acts must fulfill three conditions: (1) they must fall within normal limits, that is,

they must not be morbid acts; (2) they must be temporary manifestations, subject to easy correction; and (3) if unrecognized by the individual committing them, when his attention is called to them, he should not understand the motivation, but ascribe to it inattention or accident.

Symptomatic acts constitute some of the peculiarities of everyday life. They are expressed as mannerisms, slips of the tongue (lapsus linguae) or of memory (lapsus memoriae) or of the pen (lapsus calami), misprints, fake visual recognition, mislaying of objects, etc.

act, unintentional See act, symptomatic.

ACTH Adrenocorticotropic hormone; one of the anterior pituitary hormones. See *syndrome*, *general adaptation*.

acting in A type of acting out (q.v.) that occurs during the therapy session; the patient discharges drive tension through action rather than through words.

acting out, neurotic The partial discharge of drive tension that is achieved by responding to the present situation as if it were the situation that originally gave rise to the drive demand. Acting out is a displacement of behavioral response from one situation to another. Transference is a type of acting out in which the attitude or behavior is in response to certain definite persons.

Acting out is more than a single thought, expression, or movement; it is a real acting. Accordingly, compulsive acts and other symptoms that may involve a degree of acting are not considered to be acting out, for they are limited in extent and experienced as ego-alien.

In psychoanalysis, the patient may act out memories, instead of recalling them. An unmarried woman, for example, imagined herself pregnant from a much older man during the course of her analysis. It later became apparent that the woman was acting out her infantile incestuous desires for her father, desires which, in the beginning, she was unable to verbalize under analysis.

But acting out does not occur only in psychoanalysis. The character structure of a person, for example, is a chronic and habitual pattern of reaction that develops as the result of conflict between instinctual demands and the frustrating outer world. Although such a behavior pattern originates in the family situation, he preserves this pattern throughout his life as his typical method of reacting to any frustration. This displacement also constitutes acting out.

action, automatic In discussing suggested action, P. Janet writes: "these characteristics of the performance of suggested actions have often received specific names. Delboeuf proposed to speak of the state in which they were performed as a 'paraphonic state.' I myself have generally used the expression 'automatic' actions or beliefs. These tendencies, these dispositions to the performance of an aggregate of coordinated movements, may remain in 'latent condition,' or may be 'activated' more or less completely by passing through the stages of 'erection,' 'desire,' and 'effort,' in order to reach at length the stage of 'completed action,' or the stage of 'triumph.' " (PH)

action, chance See chance-action.

action current Action potential; the regular sequence of small electrical deflections accompanying physiological activity of muscle or nerve. Such changes in electrical potential are commonly measured nowadays by the cathode ray oscillograph.

action, faulty See act, symptomatic.

Action for Mental Health See Joint Commission on Mental Illness and Health.

action, ludic See activity, ludic.

action pattern See instinct.

action potential Action current (q.v.).

action potential, specific See instinct.

action, psychomotor Action resulting directly from an idea or perception.

action research See research, action.

action, social "The term 'social action' in its broadest sense implies any concerted movement by organized groups toward the achievement of desired objectives." (Fitch, *SWYB*) See *psychiatry*, *community*.

action, subconscious See activity, ludic.

action, symbolic Purposeless or symptomatic act. See *act, symptomatic*.

activated sleep See dream.

activating RNA See chromosome.

activation Stimulation of one organ-system by another; the term stimulation is generally reserved for external influences only.

active technique When applied to psychotherapy, refers to anything that is not the classical expectant technique of psychoanalysis (i.e. maintaining neutrality throughout the analysis without recourse at any time to suggestion, exhortation, positive injunctions

or negative prohibitions); any more extensive interference on the part of the analyst than is usual in orthodox or classical psychoanalytic technique. Active techniques are associated particularly with the name of Ferenczi. Among the maneuvers utilized in active forms of therapy are injunctions or prohibitions aimed at habits, phobias, obsessions, psychosexual habits, etc. A major objection to the use of active techniques is that they encourage reenactment rather than memory-work. See *psychotherapy*; *psychotherapy*, *brief*.

activities, graded In occupational therapy, those occupations and handicrafts that have been classified according to the degree of mental and physical effort required for accomplishment. By means of this classification it is possible to increase the complexity of the work as the capacity of the patient increases.

activity In occupational therapy, any occupation or interest wherein participation requires exertion of energy. See *passivity*.

activity, concealed antisocial The antisocial nature of certain types of behavior is sometimes concealed by the fact of its arising out of socially approved motivation. A. Kardiner refers to this as concealed antisocial activity. For example, he writes: "competitiveness must be regarded in our society as a normal manifestation of self-assertion, when it is governed by the super-ego system. But there are neurotic and criminal forms of self-assertion. A neurotic selfassertion is an attempt to deny by force a deep feeling of inferiority or insecurity. There are some types of self-assertion that are injurious in intent, but that escape being criminal by a technicality. A good trader may misrepresent by omission, but not by commission. If he misrepresents by omitting damaging details, he is merely a sharp trader and is both condemned and applauded; if he deliberately misrepresents, he is lying and is therefore only condemned. It is by this route that much concealed antisocial activity passes for normal." (The Psychological Frontiers of Society, 1945)

activity, group In occupational therapy, an activity in which several patients participate. Its chief value is its socializing effect upon the mentally ill who are asocial.

activity, immobilizing Slavson suggests this term in relation to activity group psychotherapy as a form of *libido-binding* activities. By this he means activities that tie one down to a specific interest or occupation; to attain this he has devised a special environment for group psychotherapy, which is in contrast to *stimulating* or libido-activating activities. (*IGT*) See *psychotherapy*, *group*.

activity, libido-binding See activity, immobilizing.

activity, ludic Higher animals have a quantity of energy left after performing all the movements required by their physiological life-processes. This excess energy must be expended (without purpose) in some way, most usually in play-activity, called *ludic activity*.

activity quotient The ratio of the total number of verbs in a subject's speech or writing to the total number of adjectives; the activity quotient is said to be a measure of the subject's emotionality.

activity, socializing In therapy groups, this term denotes the activity that brings an individual into interaction with other members of the group.

activity, stimulating The opposite of immobilizing activity. See *activity, immobilizing*.

actograph An apparatus designed to record the movements of the sleeper, usually by means of connection with the spring mattress.

actual neurosis See neurosis, actual. actual self See self.

acuesthesia See acmesthesia.

aculalia (å-kū-lā'lē-ā) Nonsensical or jargon speech, such as is seen with Wernicke's type of aphasia associated with lesions of the left angular gyrus (and usually also the base of the first and second temporal convolutions) in right-handed persons. The affected subject shows marked intellectual impairment, an inability to comprehend spoken or written language, and although the patient can speak he is likely to talk nonsense. This corresponds to Head's syntactical aphasia.

-acusia (-akū'z[h]ē-a) Combining form meaning hearing.

acute affective reflex Kretschmer's term for the earliest indications of emotional discharge (usually, tremors) in response to great stress.

acute brain disorders In DSM-I, various psychiatric syndromes due to temporary, reversible, diffuse impairment of brain tissue function. These disorders are part of

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the group formerly designated organic psychoses; the term acute, as used in the revised nomenclature, refers primarily to the reversibility of the process, and an acute brain disorder is one from which the patient will ordinarily recover. See brain disorder; symptomatic; syndrome, organic.

acute confusional state See confusional state, acute.

acute delusional psychoses See psychosis, reactive.

adaptability, cultural This term, according to Freud, indicates man's personal capacity to transform the egoistic impulses into social drives.

adaptability, heterogeneous See adaptability, homogeneous.

adaptability, homogeneous The capacity to adapt that is uniformly possessed by all members of the species, such as the adaptation to intensity of light entering the eye by means of the pupillary reflex. Homogeneous adaptability is differentiated from heterogeneous adaptability, which refers to genetic variability within the species or within a population (i.e. differences between individuals) in the capacity to adapt.

adaptation Fitting or conforming to the environment, usually with the implication that advantageous change has taken place. Adaptation is typically achieved through a combination of alloplastic maneuvers (which involve alteration of the external environment) and autoplastic maneuvers (which involve a change in the self). The end result of successful adaptation is adjustment; unsuccessful attempts at adaptation are termed maladjustment.

In occupational therapy this term means modification or alteration of an occupation to suit the specific need or disability of a patient.

In neurophysiology, adaptation refers to the diminished rate of discharge shown by an end-organ subjected over a period of time to a constant stimulus. Adaptation in this sense is comparable to the term tolerance when the latter is used in reference to a drug.

adaptation, alloplastic See psychodynamics, adaptational.

adaptation, autoplastic See psychodynamics, adaptational.

adaptation, ontogenetic See psychodynamics, adaptational.

adaptation syndrome See syndrome, general adaptation.

adaptedness The state that results from appropriate adjustments to conditions, as distinguished from adaptation, which strictly speaking refers only to the process whereby the adjustments are brought about. In common usage, the term adaptation has both meanings.

adaptiveness, social "From the point of view of mental deficiency, the most important group is that concerned with social adaptation, and in view of the ambiguity and various meanings attached to the term 'intelligence,' it might perhaps be advisable to apply the term 'common sense' to the quality which is characteristic of this group. In any case, whether we call it social adaptiveness, social intelligence, common sense, nous, or the more popular 'gumption,' the ability is clearly a composite one and made up of many different processes, such as comprehension, discrimination, reasoning, prevision and planning.... It is seen ... that the psychological basis of mental deficiency consists essentially in the imperfect, and often irregular, development of that group of intellectual factors of mind which combine to form what we may designate social adaptiveness." (Tredgold, TMD)

addict, object A term used to describe the behavior of certain schizophrenics who, to prove that they maintain some contact with the objective world, seek out and cling to objects and ideas and on the basis of this develop obsessions, monomania, elaborate inventions, etc.

addiction Strong dependence, both physiologic and emotional, upon alcohol or some other drug. True addiction is characterized by the appearance of an abstinence syndrome of organic origin when the drug is withdrawn. It appears that in the addicted person the presence in the body of the addicting drug becomes necessary to maintain normal cellular functions, and when the drug is withdrawn, distortion of physiological processes ensues and abstinence symptoms are provoked. An addict, in other words, is a person who, whatever the apparent reason, has become physically and emotionally dependent upon a drug, substance or compound, so that he must maintain a certain level of intake of that substance. Often, in addition, the craving for the substance has a compulsive, overpowering quality, and there is often the tendency to use the substance in ever-increasing amounts.

Addiction is considered to be a state of periodic or chronic intoxication, detrimental to the user and to society, produced by the repeated consumption of a natural or synthetic drug. The user has lost the power of self-control, at least in relation to the drug, and his behavior comes to be determined to a considerable extent by the use of chemical agents.

Because addiction usually implies physical dependence, it is gradually being replaced by the term drug dependency. See alcoholism; dependency, drug; substance use

addiction, cyclic A syndrome originally described by Wulff that occurs most commonly in women and consists of periods of depression, feelings of ugliness, and overeating or overdrinking alternating with periods of normal or elated mood, feelings of beauty, and ascetic behavior. By psychoanalytical definition these patients show a preoedipal mother conflict with unconscious hatred of the mother and of feminity. Their urge to eat is an attempt to incorporate something to counteract feminity—milk, penis, child and/or narcissistic supplies which soothe anxieties.

addiction, enema The frequent and habitual taking of enemas to gratify deep, hidden, unconscious character needs, but usually rationalized "for health."

addiction, polysurgical Sometimes a manifestation of factitious disorder, at other times of somatization disorder or hypochondriasis (qq.v.); patients with polysurgical addiction solicit or, through multiple symptoms, obtain many operations even though no organic pathology is uncovered that would have warranted the surgical procedures. See syndrome, Munchhausen.

Addisonian syndrome (Thomas Addison, English physician, 1793-1860) Addison's disease; melasma suprarenale; adrenocortical insufficiency, due usually to atrophy or destructive inflammatory lesions. Symptoms include: weakness, anorexia, hypotension, cutaneous pigmentary changes (bronzed skin), hyponatremia, hyperkalemia, vomiting, diarrhea, irritability, periodic hypoglycemia, and decreased or absent secretion of a-ketosteroids and 11-oxysteroids. In some cases, paranoid reactions are seen. Treatment consists of replacement therapy with desoxycorticosterone acetate and supplementary sodium chloride or aldosterone.

additive W A Rorschach scoring term for a response in which the subject reports details but finally combines these into a whole response.

ademonia Agitated depression.

ademosyne (a-dē-mos'i-nē) Obs. Nostalgia.

adenoid See type, adenoid.

adenoma, basophil(e) Tumor of the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland, characterized by a pluriglandular symptom complex (Cushing's syndrome). The symptoms are adiposity of the body and face but sparing the limbs, amenorrhea and hypertrichosis in women, acrocyanosis with cutis marmorata, hypertension, purple striae distensae, at times polycythemia and peculiar softening of bones, and frequently hyperglycemia.

Young adults are more commonly affected and duration of life is about five years following appearance of symptoms. Psychoses develop in approximately 25% of cases; they are commonly of the manic, melancholic, or anxious-agitated variety. In another 35% of cases, there are marked personality changes, usually in the direction of apathy.

adephagia, addephagia Obs. A morbidly voracious appetite. See bulimia.

adiadochokinesis (a-dī-ad-ō-kō-ki-nē'sis) Loss of power to perform rapid alternating movements. This symptom is indicative of disorder of the cerebellum or its tracts.

adient Positively oriented or moving-toward. The adient drive or behavior or response is a situation that results in behavior acting toward the stimulus, increasing and perpetuating its action; it is the opposite of the avoidant drive.

Adie's syndrome A syndrome of unknown etiology characterized by enlarged pupil that shows the tonic pupillary reaction (when the patient is directed to gaze at a near object, the affected pupil slowly contracts to a size even smaller than the normal pupil) and by diminution or loss of tendon reflexes. The disorder occurs almost exclusively in females and usually has its onset in the third decade. It is a benign condition and unrelated to syphilis; also known as pseudo-Argyll Robertson pupil and pupillotonic pseudotabes.

adiposogenital dystrophia See Fröhlich's syndrome; Laurence-Moon-Biedl syndrome.

adjustment See adaptation.

adjustment disorders A group of maladaptive reactions to life stresses or crises, such as business reversals, divorce or family discord, physical illness, and the difficulties inherent in the move to a different developmental level (leaving home, marrying, becoming a parent, retiring, etc.). Symptoms and behavior are beyond the expected, normal range of reaction to such stressors and interfere with social or occupational functioning. Manifestations include any of the following, singly or in combination: depressed or anxious mood, conduct disturbances, work or academic inhibition, or withdrawal. The adjustment disorders typically remit when the stressor ceases, or when a new level of adaptation is reached. See transient situational disturbances.

adjustment reaction In the 1952 revision of psychiatric nomenclature (DSM-I), this term was used to refer to certain transient situational personality disorders (q.v.) occurring in various periods of life.

adjustment, social Adaptation of the person to his social environment. Adjustment may take place by adapting one's self to the environment or by changing the environment.

Adler, Alfred (1870–1937) Austrian psychiatrist, founder of the school of Individual Psychology; inferiority complex; overcompensation.

admission certification See review.

admission, first A person admitted for the first time to an institution of a given class (e.g. mental hospital or institution for the retarded).

adolescence The state or period of growth from puberty to maturity. In normal subjects its beginning is marked by the appearance of secondary sexual characteristics, commonly at about age 12; its termination is at about age 20. Adolescence is the period in which sexual maturity is achieved in that for the first time both the sexual and reproductive instincts attain full maturity and unite into a single striving; it can further be considered the age of final establishment of a dominant positive ego identity, the age in which "tu-ism" replaces narcissism, the age in which sexual development dovetails into the development of object relationships leading to the mature, adult stage of impersonal object love (alloerotism) and unhampered orgastic heterosexuality.

adoptees, control See cross-fostering. adoptees, index See cross-fostering.

adoption studies Investigations of adopted children as a way to estimate the degree of heritability of a given trait or disorder; the Danish studies of adoption and rearing of the offspring of schizophrenic parents by Seymour Kety and David Rosenthal and their co-workers (1968) are now classic.

Several techniques have been used: (1) adoptees' family method—the investigator selects as an index case a person who, adopted in childhood, by adulthood had been hospitalized with a diagnosis of schizophrenia; adoptees without psychiatric disorder serve as controls; the incidence of mental disorder in adoptive and biological parents, siblings and half-siblings is compared in index cases and controls; (2) adoptees study method—biological parents of adoptees are divided into those with psychiatric disorder (index cases) and those without (controls); the adopted offspring are then studied for incidence of mental disorder; (3) adoptive parents method schizophrenics who have been adopted are compared with schizophrenics who have been reared by their biological parents and the incidence of mental disorder in adoptive and biological parents is compared; (4) crossfostering—the offspring of parents who are not schizophrenic are reared by adoptive parents who are schizophrenic; the adopted offspring are then studied for incidence of schizophrenia.

Adrenalin A proprietary brand of *epinephrine* (q.y.).

adrenergic Referring to neural excitation by catecholamines (e.g. dopamine, epinephrine, norepinephrine).

adrenochrome See psychotomimetic.

adrenocortical insufficiency Addison's disease (q.v.).

adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) One of the anterior pituitary hormones. See *syndrome*, *general adaptation*.

adulthood Maturity. See developmental levels.
adultomorphism Interpretation of the behavior of children in terms of adult behavior.
See anthropomorph.

advantage by illness See illness, advantage by.
adventurousness The condition characterizing the child in the preschool period in which there is an urge to rough-and-tumble

freedom and curiosity. This involves the need of using the larger muscles rather than the smaller ones. Activities such as climbing, running, tricycle riding, ball playing, the use of big toys, the need to touch and handle everything within reach, and wandering away in search of new adventures characterize this period. The short span of attention required produces a rapid shifting from one activity to another. See *wanderlust*.

advocacy The act of pleading, defending, or interceding on behalf of another. A child advocacy system was recommended in the Report of the Joint Commission on Mental Health of Children (1969), largely in recognition of the fact that the organizational complexity of mental health services was of such degree that few parents had the ability effectively to engage the family and child with the system. Perhaps to a lesser degree, the same complexities render almost all human services relatively inaccessible to the people who need them most. See expediter; psychiatry, community.

Legal advocacy refers to efforts to establish and enforce legal rights; in psychiatry (as in the rest of medicine), it includes consumer-oriented efforts to improve the quality and quantity of services (consumerism) and civil-rights-oriented efforts to protect the freedoms and fundamental rights of

patients. See consumerism.

Adx A Rorschach scoring symbol for a response of a part or a detail of an animal where most subjects would see the whole animal; also known as an oligophrenic response. See *Do*.

adynamia (ad-i-nā'mē-a) Weakness; asthenia; a common symptom among psychiatric

patients.

aedoeomania Obs. Nymphomania.

aelurophobia Ailurophobia (q.v.).

AEP Average evoked potential. See *potential*, *evoked*.

aero- (ā-ēr-ō-) Combining form meaning *air*, from Greek, *aér*.

aero-acrophobia Fear of open, high spaces the morbid dread of being at a great height such as occurs when one is in an airplane. This malady should not be confused with air-sickness, which is a disturbance of vertigo-type.

aeroasthenia See aeroneurosis.

aeroneurosis A form of psychoneurosis, perhaps an actual neurosis, which is said to occur among aviators; the symptoms are anxiety, restlessness, and varying physical phenomena.

aerophagia Swallowing of air, usually in such quantity as to produce abdominal distention and symptoms of hyperventilation (see *syndrome*, *hyperventilation*). The symptom is often based on unconscious wishes or conflicts, such as pregnancy wishes or cannibalistic impulses.

aerophobia Morbid dread of air, often ascribed to allegedly deleterious airborne influences; sometimes it also includes fear of

one's own body odors.

aerumma (ē-room'na) *Obs.* Melancholia associated with a physical ailment.

aeschromythesis (es-krō-mi-thē'sis) Obs. Obscene language.

affect (ä'fekt) The feeling-tone accompaniment of an idea or mental representation. The affects are the most direct psychic derivatives of the instincts and are psychic representatives of the various bodily changes by means of which the drives manifest themselves. The affects regularly attach themselves to ideas and other psychic formations to which they did not originally belong, and as a result their origin and meaning remain hidden from consciousness. If an affect is completely suppressed, it may appear not as an emotion but rather as physical changes of innervations, such as perspiration, tachycardia, paresthesia, etc. In other cases, especially in catatonic and manic states, the affects may appear without

The term affect is also used, more loosely, as a class name for feeling, emotion, or *mood*

affect-block See block, affect.

affect, blunted See *affectivity, disturbances of.* **affect, charge of** "That part of the instinct which has become detached from the idea, and finds proportionate expression, according to its quantity, in processes which become observable to perception as affects." (Freud, *CP*) See *cathexis*.

affect, cooling of See affectivity, disturbances of. affect, detached This is a term used by Freud to explain the psychological theory of obsessions and phobias. An idea that is unbearable to the ego may have its associated affect separated from it, and this affect persists in the psychical sphere. The unbearable idea is thus weakened and remains present in

consciousness, detached from all associations. Its affect, now freed from the unbearable idea, attaches itself to other ideas, which are not in themselves unbearable, but which through this "false connection" grow to be obsessions. The detachment of its affect from an unbearable idea is undertaken as a defense against this idea.

affect, discharge of This term, employed by Freud, indicates an energetic reaction to an affective experience. This energetic reaction includes the whole range of voluntary and involuntary reflexes, by which, according to experience, the emotions—from weeping up to a clear act of revenge—are habitually worked off.

affect, dislocated See affect, transposition of.
affect, displacement of See affect, transposition
of.

affect-energy The energy that comes from the excitement engendered by applying a psychic stimulus to the whole human organism, with all its individual systems. Also called *affective energy*.

affect-hunger See hunger, affect.

affect, inversion of Counter-affect; reversal of affect; transformation of an affect into its opposite. "If I am conversing with a person to whom I must show consideration while I should like to address him as an enemy, it is almost more important that I should conceal the expression of my affect from him than that I should modify the verbal expression of my thoughts." (Freud, ID)

affect, organ, localization of An affect, especially anxiety, can be felt in any organ of the body, but particularly in the organs that are directly supplied by the autonomic nervous system, such as the heart, lungs, stomach, intestines, etc.

affect-phantasy Jung's term for any phantasy that is strongly imbued with feelings.

affect, retention of See affect, strangulated.

affect, strangulated An affect that is repressed along with its attached mental content; it is retained in the unconscious and together with its psychic component produces morbid symptoms.

affect, transformation of in dreams In psychoanalytic interpretation it is often found that the feelings that one may really have masquerade in dreams as their exact opposites. The emotion of joy turns up as sorrow. Love is found disguised as the feeling of hatred. Sobs are discovered to be concealed

by laughter. This process, usually referred to as the *transformation of an affect (feeling) into its opposite*, is one of the many processes by which the dream obscures its true meaning. If the psychic material out of which the dream is constructed contains an affect that has been repressed, this affect can gain representation in the dream by inversion into an opposite affect.

affect, transposition of Displacement of the affective component of an unconscious idea onto an unrelated and harmless idea, seen typically in obsessive-compulsive and de-

pressive patients.

affectability Obs. The state of being able to express emotion or feeling. The expression is seldom employed in psychiatry, although inquiry is frequently made into the emotional susceptibility of the individual.

affectate Obs. To arouse feeling or emotion. **affectation** Artificiality of manner or behavior. Affectation is a form of simulation in that there is a crudely disguised effort to act as someone else, usually for purposes of gaining esteem.

affected, germinally This genetic term (equivalent to the German keimkrank) qualifies an individual (1) as being heterozygous for some recessive morbid character and thus carrying the predisposition for this trait in its genotype without manifesting it phenotypically, or (2) as a homozygote for any kind of hereditary character with inhibited manifestation.

affectio hypochondriaca Obs. Hypochondriasis.

affection A general term, implying feeling and emotion, as distinguished from cognition and volition. Also used to refer to love or positive feelings for another that are not sexual.

affection, masked By this term Stekel describes the kind actions and tender behavior adopted by certain individuals in order to disguise their real inner sentiment of hatred for the person toward whom they act so kindly. It is as if they wore a mask of love to cover the real face of hate. See *reaction-formation*.

affection, partial Suggested by Hirschfield as a synonym for *fetishism* (q.v.).

affective Pertaining to affect.

affective-cathexis See cathexis.

affective disorders A group of disorders characterized by a primary disturbance of