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UNCONDITIONED AND CONDITIONED REACTIONS TO PAIN IN SCHIZOPHRENIA.

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Nearly every text-book of psychiatry mentions that the reaction to pain in catatonics is incomplete or absent. Stransky states in his Text-book of Psychiatry (Leipzig-Voegel) that the response is awkward. It has also been described that when catatonics are stuck in the tongue with a pin they rarely withdraw their tongue, but offer it again and again to this more or less painful procedure. But still the literature contains only occasional remarks and the problem has never been carefully studied. Our interest in this problem has been aroused by a series of cases described by Schilder and Stengel^{1, 2} in which the pain reaction of the whole body was more or less incomplete in connection with gross lesions of the brain due to arteriosclerosis, trauma, softening, tumor or syphilis. Many of these cases showed sensory aphasia. Apractic phenomena of a minor degree were not uncommon and in some the postural reflexes were increased. From the clinical symptomatology a lesion in the region of the gyrus supra marginalis seemed probable.

The first of these cases described by Schilder and Stengel came to autopsy (in print) and showed in addition to a small lesion in the frontal lobe, a softening in the gyrus longus insula spreading

¹ Schilder, Paul, and Stengel, Erwin: Schmerzsymbolie, Zeit. f. d. gesamt. Neurol. and Psych. 1928 (113) 130.

² Schilder, Paul, and Stengel, Erwin: Der Hirnbefund bei Schmerzsymbolie, Klin. Woch. 1928.

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