APPENDIX

It is mentioned that an autistic child's attending often is completely fixated on moving, mobile, rotating, round objects such as watches, wheels, gears, and especially the moving parts of machines, or vehicles such as threshers, conveyer belts, concrete mixers, steam tractors, locomotives, airplane propellers, the reels of film projectors, bicycle, and motorcycle wheels, while he/she does not succeed in establishing situations of interpersonal encounter, and does not live in close connection with other persons. On the following pages are copies of sketches by a fourteen-year-old autistic boy, which are characterized by the fact that especially mechanical apparatuses and tools are drawn with the greatest accuracy. In sharp contrast to this, his depersonalized way of existence and deficient bodily knowledge emerge strongly in his machinelike, angular, round, "transparent", lifeless, i.e., infantile, representations of human figures. The intense interest in objects, in contrast to a disinterest in persons, and his "unfamiliarity" with the human figure clearly emerge. These extremely meaningful phenomena in the psychic life of an autistic child define an important topic for further research.