

marked pessimism and phobias. There also developed vertiginous attacks, each of which was preceded by an aura—peculiar sensations of taste and smell, and eroticism. The author concludes that the psycho-neurosis was due to the emotional shock occasioned by the accident, while the epilepsy was the result of actual cerebral commotion.

J. S. ANNANDALE.

*Two General Paralytics—Railway Servants, one a Guard, the other a Pointsman* [*Deux paralytiques généraux ; l'un aiguilleur, l'autre conducteur de train dans les grandes Compagnies de Chemins de fer*]. (*Ann. Méd. Psych.*, July, 1924.) Pactet, M.

The two patients concerned were carrying on at work almost to the date of their admission to hospital, their mental deterioration having escaped notice. M. Pactet has previously drawn attention to the dangers that may ensue in such cases, and points out that although arrangements are in force for the physical examination of railway employees, no means are taken regularly to ascertain their mental state.

J. S. ANNANDALE.

*Another Case of Fatal Status Epilepticus in the Course of Treatment by Gardenal* [*Sur un nouveau cas d'état de mal mortel au cours du traitement par le gardenal*]. (*Bull. Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment.*, October, 1924.) Trenal, M.

In this case the incidence of the seizures was on the whole greatly lessened over a long period, but the patient eventually died of *status epilepticus*. The *post-mortem* findings were very indefinite. In the course of discussion stress was laid on the fact that *status epilepticus* is no more frequent during treatment by gardenal than with the older drugs, but that in many instances diminution of the number of seizures was followed by equivalents, such as outbursts of excitement, violent and impulsive acts.

J. S. ANNANDALE.

*Sudden Arrest of a Maniacal Attack as a Result of Arterial Thrombosis. Recurrence of Manifestations on return of the Circulation* [*Arrêt brusque d'un accès maniaque à l'occasion d'une thrombose artérielle. Reprise des manifestations avec le retour de la circulation*]. (*Bull. Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment.*, February, 1926.) Claude, Henri, and Badonnel.

The maniacal symptoms in a case of periodic insanity ceased suddenly on the development of a thrombo-arteritis. The arteritis was accompanied by a considerable rise of temperature. The authors incline to attribute the sudden amelioration of the symptoms to the alterations in the proteins of the blood during the thrombotic process and suggest that the effect is akin to protein shock. They cannot ascribe the beneficial results to the coincident rise of temperature, as in a recurrence of the maniacal symptoms artificially produced fever was of little service.

J. S. ANNANDALE.