

psychosis in two elderly sisters. Unlike most cases, in this instance both sisters seemed active subjects, and neither dominated the other, but the delusional content and symptoms were practically identical.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Hysterical Contractions of the External Muscles of the Eye* [*Les Contractures Hystériques des Muscles Externes de l'Œil*]. (*L'Encéph.*, March, 1926.) Balduzzi, O.

Such contractures are quite common temporarily, but are rarely of long duration, and the few prolonged cases which have been recorded are quoted by the author. He describes the case of a young woman, a "grande hystérique," which he observed himself, in which internal strabismus with diplopia followed the hysterical attacks.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Chronic Hallucinatory Psychosis with Delusional Interpretations in a Diabetic suffering from Hypertrichosis* [*Psychose Hallucinatoire Chronique avec Interprétations Délirantes chez une Diabétique Hypertrichosique*]. (*L'Encéph.*, March, 1926.) Laignel-Lavastine and Valence.

The authors describe an interesting case in which the delusions varied according to the amount of glycosuria. After typhoid fever sugar disappeared from the urine for seven months, and during this period the mental state was nearly normal. The case supports the theory of Cherambault that chronic hallucinatory psychosis is always of organic origin. The patient (a woman) had a marked hypertrichosis of masculine type—an accompaniment of diabetes which one of the authors has seen frequently.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Obsessional Fugues and Epidemic Encephalitis* [*Fugues Obsédantes et Encéphalite Épidémique*]. (*L'Encéph.*, March, 1926.) Dupouy, R., and Hyvert, M.

This is the case of a man, æt. 25, who had epidemic encephalitis in 1920 and has since suffered six fugues. The authors point out that if these fugues can be caused by the lesions of encephalitis in this case they may be equally due to other organic causes in other cases.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Interpretative Psychosis of Emotive Origin. The Prognosis in these Interpretative States* [*Psychose Interpretative d'Origine Émotive. Du Prognostic de ces États Interprétatifs*]. (*L'Encéph.*, March, 1926.) Tinel, J., Robin, G., and Cénac, M.

The paper describes the case of a man, æt. 36, constitutionally emotional, but with no previous disorder of conduct, who fled from home in a state of terror caused by delusions of sudden onset. He had detected a group of colleagues in a system of thefts, and was in fact assaulted by some of them, and a few days later he imagined himself the object of a conspiracy and in constant danger, his delusions supported by morbid interpretations. The authors discuss

the nature of the case, and conclude that it is not paranoia, and that the prognosis is favourable.

W. D. CHAMBERS

*Hallucinatory Obsessions: Their Importance in the Study of the Pathology of Hallucinations* [*Obsessions Hallucinatoires: Leur Importance pour l'Étude de la Pathogénie des Hallucinations*]. (Ann. Med. Psych., October, 1926.) Redalie, L.

The author describes a case in which obsessions were replaced by psychic hallucinations, and later by true auditory hallucinations. In all three phases the content of the morbid mental activity was similar, but in the first there was extreme anxiety, less in the second, and marked indifference in the third. Reference is made to other similar recorded cases, and the possible causes of the development of hallucinations in obsessed patients are discussed.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Mental Automatism; Spiritualistic Delusions and Spiritualism* [*Automatisme mental; délire spirite et spiritisme*]. (Ann. Med. Psych., October, 1926.) Schiff, P.

The case of a woman, who in the course of a progressive hallucinatory psychosis came in contact with practising spiritualists and mediums, and accepted at once all their supernatural theories and explanations of her symptoms. Her illness could not be ascribed to spiritualism, but its content was modified by her experiences. In addition to the patient the medium with whom she had most to do was also demonstrated by the author, and it is pointed out that the medium's "trances" as described by himself are obviously phenomena of mental automatism.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*False Delusions* [*Les Faux Délires*]. (Ann. Med. Psych., October, 1926.) Courbon, P.

The author gives this name to statements which are strictly true, but which have a delusional appearance and may lead to errors in diagnosis. They occur either as an indirect result of some other mental disorder in the subject, or as a result of some abnormality in those with whom the subject comes in contact. Examples of each are given. In the discussion following the paper, it was suggested that "apparent delusions" would be a more accurate term for the condition.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Observations on Epilepsy*. (Journ. of Neur. and Psycho-path., January, 1927.) Turner, W. A.

This article contains the material of an address delivered before the Section of Psychiatry, Royal Society of Medicine, in December, 1926. The author reviews the present attitude of psychiatrists to epilepsy, and discusses the numerous theories as to its causation. Several aspects of the problem are dealt with, and he gives statistics from his own personal practice when discussing inheritance in the disease.

WM. McWILLIAM.

