

defects were all very favourably influenced in the good remission series.

The authors are inclined to attribute the improvement to the high temperature. They found that from a serological standpoint, a parallelism exists between the number of febrile paroxysms and the improvement. Bunker and Kirby regard the improvement as due to a form of foreign protein therapy acting on a nervous system which has not been too badly damaged.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Intravenous Treatment of Some Epileptics with Calcium Chloride and Gluocalcium. (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, April, 1927.) Klein, E., and Forcione, E.

The authors used calcium chloride and gluco-calcium on two groups of fourteen patients. They found no benefit from the use of calcium over four- and five-month periods. If anything there was a tendency towards an increase in the number of fits. There was no advantage in the use of gluco-calcium over calcium chloride, and no increase in the calcium concentration of the blood-serum after the injection of one-half to two grains of calcium salts.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

4. Psycho-Pathology.

The Syndrome of Mental Automatism and Its Rôle in the Formation of the Chronic Systematized Psychoses. (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, April, 1927.) Bailey, P.

It is to de Clerambault that we owe the conception of mental automatism and its rôle in the development of paranoia and paraphrenia. The automatism is a triple one, comprising phenomena of three sorts, (a) sensory, (b) motor and (c) ideoverbal. It includes all the processes described under the name of hallucinations, but includes many illusions and other phenomena of a negative character. The sensory group consists of hallucinations and illusions which are familiar enough. The motor group consists of hallucinations of kinæsthetic sensibility, especially of the vocal musculature.

The ideoverbal automatisms are allied to the psychic hallucinations of Baillarger or the pseudo-hallucinations of Kandinsky, and are considered by de Clerambault to be most important. They are either positive or negative. The positive phenomena include psychic hallucinations, ideorrhœa, mute procession of the past, substitution of thought, pressure of thought, false recognition, passage of an invisible thought, echo of thought, enunciation of acts, anticipation of thought and flight of thought. The negative phenomena include arrest of thought, seizure of thought, absence of thought, disappearance of thought and sudden forgetting. To these Henyer and Lamache have added thought-reading. De Clerambault considers that all the phenomena of mental automatism have their origin in a physico-chemical alteration of the cells of