

*Co-ordinated Epileptoid Automatism in a Wood-Carver* [*Activité automatique coordonnée de nature épileptique chez un sculpteur sur bois*]. (Bull. Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment., 1925.) Marchand, L., and Bauer, E.

The patient has suffered from *petit mal* attacks for twenty-one years. At intervals he suffers from "absences" of which some are remembered, some not. When the attacks occur in the course of the patient's daily occupation, he usually continues at his work with marked skill. The authors stress the medico-legal importance of such cases.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Polymorphous Delusional States* [*Les Délires Polymorphes*]. (*L'Encéph.*, January, 1926.) Targowla, R.

This paper begins with a review of Magnan's teaching on the subject of delusional conditions, dividing them into two classes—chronic systematized and primary delusional states. From this second class there are now separated two groups—chronic hallucinatory psychoses and paranoid dementia—and the author claims to separate a third, which he proposes to call polymorphous delusional state. This is described as an acute or subacute disorder, often relapsing and becoming chronic, having complex manic, melancholic and psycho-toxic components, and accompanied by bodily symptoms. It is particularly distinguished from paranoid dementia by the polymorph delusions of sudden origin and no evolution, on a degenerate mental basis; by the confusion of manic, melancholic and oneiric symptoms which form the foundation of the disorder; and by the precarious physical state and signs of auto-intoxication. Kraepelin admitted that certain cases which he had classified as dementia paranoides did not evolve to dementia, and tended to recover, and the author states that these would be included in *délire polymorphe*.

The paper describes in great detail an illustrative case.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*The Delimitation of "Legitimate" Paranoia* [*Délimitation de la Paranoia Légitime*]. (*L'Encéph.*, January, 1926.) Claude, H., and Montassut, M.

This paper is an able historical review of the various connotations ascribed to the term "paranoia" from the earliest times. It concludes that the legitimate meaning of the word now is that given it by Kraepelin, and supported in almost identical terms by French and Italian teachers, namely, a primary systematized chronic delusional state, of endogenous origin and without terminal dementia. The Italians tend to lay more stress on the evidence of constitutional disorder, the French on the multiplicity and extension of false interpretations and on the rarity and unimportance of hallucinations.

W. D. CHAMBERS.