

*The Narcotic and Toxic Action of Ethylbutylethylbarbituric Acid.* (Bull. Acad. Vet. France, vol. viii, pp. 105-18, 1935; Bev. Ges. Physiol., Exptl. Pharmakol., vol. lxxxvii, p. 211.) Panisset, L., and Grasset, E.

Intravenous injections of 30 to 40 mgrm. of ethyl-2-butylethylbarbituric acid to dogs produced narcosis, without preceding excitation, which persisted for 40-90 minutes. The duration of narcosis was not proportional to the dose injected. There was a decrease in body temperature and respiratory rate, while the pulse was only slightly decreased. After intraperitoneal injections of 50 mgrm. per kg., deep narcosis developed within 10 minutes.

JAMES C. MUNCH (Chem. Abstr.).

*Sodium Butylethylbarbiturate in the Treatment of Delirium Tremens.* (Soc. Medico-psychologique, March 23, 1936; Anesthésie et Analgesie, vol. iii, p. 299.) Bargues and Grimal.

Good results were obtained in acute delirium tremens by an intravenous dose of 0.80-1.0 grm. sodium ethylbutylbarbiturate (soneryl), which immediately produced sleep lasting 24 hours. No toxic effects were obtained with doses of 0.015 grm./kg., and no beneficial effects were obtained with smaller doses. The toxic dose as determined experimentally was 0.09 grm./kg.

MARION HORN (Chem. Abstr.).

*Comparison of the Effects of Various Analeptic Drugs on Carbon Monoxide and Barbiturate Poisonings.* (Zeitschr. Ges. Exptl. Med., vol. c, pp. 1-19, 1937.) Thiel, K.

The effects on the circulation and respiration of animals poisoned by carbon monoxide and pernocton of the drugs sympathol, lobeline-sympathol, cardiazole, coramine, analepticin 3067 and cardiazole-ephedrine and of a mixture of carbon dioxide and oxygen are reported. Recovery from pernocton is best with mixtures of sympathol and cardiazole; from carbon monoxide the gas mixture is better.

MILTON LEVY (Chem. Abstr.).

*Acute Intoxication by Barbital with Contracture and Symptoms of Pyramidal Irritation.* (Arch. Soc. Sci. Med. Biol. Montpellier et Languedoc, vol. xviii, pp. 329-35, 1937.) Euzière, J., Lafon, R., Aussilloux, Seintem and Nicolas.

Acute barbiturism generally gives rise to depression symptoms considered the antithesis of the excitation symptoms of strychnine poisoning. However, a case is here presented in which ingestion of barbital produced contracture and symptoms of pyramidal irritation similar to those seen after strychnine poisoning. The urine contained barbital, but no traces of strychnine.

MARION HORN (Chem. Abstr.).

*Experiments with Quinine and Prostigmin in Treatment of Myotonia and Myasthenia.* (Arch. Neur. and Psychiat., vol. xxxvii, p. 68, Jan., 1937.) Kennedy, F., and Wolf, A.

Quinine is as effective in myotonia as Prostigmin is in myasthenia. Prostigmin is effective in myasthenia through its catalytic influence on acetylcholine, while quinine is effective in myotonia through its inhibition of acetylcholine, both acting at the myoneural junction.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Effect on the Electro-encephalogram of Drugs and Conditions which Influence Seizures.* (Arch. Neur. and Psychiat., vol. xxxvi, p. 1236, Dec., 1936.) Lennox, W. G., Gibbs, F. H., and Gibbs, E. L.

Attention and the inhalation of carbon dioxide, both of which decrease the fluctuations in voltage of potentials from the normal cortex, tend to prevent the appearance of *petit mal* waves. Phenobarbital and sodium bromide prevent or alter the pathological activity associated with a seizure.