Damaye, H. WAR DEPRESSIONS. [Prog. Med., Aug. 17, 1918.]

Thirty-three of about 1,000 patients passing through one psychiatric center had tried to commit suicide. In fifteen there were indications of cardiac disease. The mental disturbance was most often manifested by desertion. Malaria plus alcohol was found in the large majority of these cases. Many were extremely susceptible to alcohol, one glass of wine being badly borne. Fatigue enhances his susceptibility.

Pilsbury, L. B. THE PERSONAL EQUATION IN PSYCHIATRY. [J. A. M. A., July 20, 1918.]

The author says that in one sense of the term personality may be said to be everything in insanity. The hardest things to extinguish in an individual are the things that mark him off from others. The author asks, Can personality be of etiologic significance in the determination of insanity? It can be, he says, if by personality we mean that individual set or bias which creates a presumption in favor of either normality or abnormality in reaction to difficult circumstances, but an adequate definition of personality is practically impossible. It is made up largely of habitual modes of thinking, feeling and acting. We cannot but be impressed by the tyranny of personality when we compare the intracentric and subjective precocious dement with the exocentric and objective maniac, but after all we cannot tell which component in the etiology has the greater effect in determining the psychosis, whether the personal make up or the hypothetic disturbing factor. It is often plausibly said there is nothing remarkable about certain persons becoming insane because they seemed always on the verge of it, and its manifestation was only an exaggeration of existing traits or tendencies. The idea of effect without cause is abhorrent and a rational dualism seems to extricate us from the dilemma with which we are confronted, if we assume that physical injury or disease can cause only physical disorder and that insanity, therefore, is purely psychologic in origin. It is astonishing how much disease of the brain may sometimes exist without mental breakdown. We prefer to think of a man as something more than a mere mass of biologic adaptations, but we must not lose sight of the fact that perhaps the greatest progress of modern psychiatry is to be found in the biologic aspect of the disease, and probably the psychiatrist will succeed best by keeping all the elements, bodily and psychic, in mind.

Damaye, H. EPILEPSY, HYSTERIA AND CHOREA IN ADVANCED PSYCHIATRIC CENTER. [Prog. Med., Sept. 14, 1918. J. A. M. A.]

Damaye gives some examples of convulsions resembling epileptic seizures which developed after exceptional physical exertion, long day and night marching or manual labor. A very little alcohol, then, may be the last straw that brings on the convulsion. The effect of a wound or bombardment or getting gassed may also have this effect. Epileptics