Mendes, R. Texeira. THALAMIC SYNDROME WITH CEREBRAL ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS. [Brazil-Medico, May 22, 1920.]

Following the leads of Roussy and other observers of this general syndrome the author separates three types: the pure thalamic syndrome, the mixed thalamic syndrome and the thalamic status. He then describes a case of the latter type in which arteriosclerosis was evidently a factor. The first symptom fifteen years before had been sensations of heat in the hands, compelling the woman to bathe her hands frequently in cold water. Then came great debility and inability to lift or even grasp objects, with other symptoms of thalamus derangement.

Briand, M., and Rouquier, A. INORGANIC MOTOR DISTURBANCES. [Presse méd., July 14, 1920.]

These authors report a number of puzzling motor disturbances which at first sight seemed to resemble hysterical symptoms but which on closer analysis might better be referred to residual signs of a mild attack of lethargic encephalitis.

Hunt, J. Ramsay. THE STATIC AND KINETIC SYSTEMS OF MOTILITY. [Tr. Am. Neurol. Soc., 1920.]

According to the author, motility consists of two components, each represented throughout the entire efferent nervous system by separate neural mechanisms. This is true not only of the segmental nervous system but also of the larger integrating and coordinating masses of the brain and cerebellum. These two systems are mutually cooperative and yet physiologically and anatomically distinct. Under normal conditions they are inseparable and act in unison, and the harmony of their relation is only disturbed by the dissociations of accident or disease. One of these components of motility is the movement proper, which is subserved by the *kinetic system*.

The other represents the more passive form of contractility, which we recognize in tonus, posture, attitude and equilibrium. This static function of the efferent system is subserved by separate neuromuscular pathways, which may be termed the *static system*.

Comparative anatomy shows clearly that the muscular system, like all other structures of the body is in a state of evolution, adapting itself to the changing conditions of the organism. Development is from the slow movement of the unstriated to the quick movement of the striated muscle fiber. And in man, all gradations may be observed from the lowest type of unstriated muscle to the highest type of the striated muscle fiber. Striated muscle contains two substances, both capable of contraction. The one is the *disc mechanism* of the muscle fiber, which gives rise to the quick movement or the twitch. The other is the *sarcomplasm*, which yields a more plastic form of contraction. A clear conception of