between lively dermographic reactions and certain vasomotor and secretory disturbances. In neurasthenics the dermographia dolorosa reaction is livelier than in hysterics. When repeated examinations of psychoneurotics are made a great variability in results is sometimes manifested. In many respects the results of the dermographia dolorosa correspond to those of plethysmographic and tonometric examinations. In regard to the cause of the dermographic phenomena the author states that they may possibly be due to heightened blood pressure. Weber and Bickel have shown that in conditions of mental and physical fatigue and in certain nervous diseases, including psychoneuroses, psychasthenic reactions make their appearance when there is pain or mental exertion, expectation or sensible stimulation. A cortical paresis of the vasoconstrictors is hereby conditioned, and in consequence of the resulting heightened blood pressure a passive dilatation of the vessels of the skin. In hysteria, where, according to Raff, there is no tendency to heightened blood pressure, the dermographic phenomena would not be produced, which accorded with the results of the author's experiments. [J.]

Klien, H. ENTOPTIC PERCEPTION OF THE RETINAL PIGMENT EPITHELIUM IN A CASE OF MIGRAINE. [Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Neurol. u. Psychiat., Vol. XXXVI, p. 323.]

The disturbances of vision and subjective phenomena of light which occur in attacks of migraine are of various sorts and have not hitherto been explained in an entirely satisfactory manner. There is an inclination to refer many of the subjective phenomena, in so far as they are not irreconcilable with a central localization, to purely central irritation, or, if the disturbances affect only one eye, to an irritation in the optic nerve. The author had opportunity to observe a case of migraine in which, during the attack, an optical phenomena frequently made its appearance which could be explained in no other way than as a process in the eye itself. This phenomenon was in the form of a net made up of hexagonal meshes covering the entire field of vision; the same appearance may be produced experimentally in certain conditions of light or by pressure on the bulbus. There is no unanimity of opinion as to its cause, but the author interprets it as a perception of the epithelial pigment layer of the eye due to unequal stimulation of the elements of this layer. The occurrence of this phenomenon in migraine is explained as the result of variations in pressure in the bulbus or of vasomotor disturbances in the retina and choroid or as due to the fact that the centrifugal fibers arising in the mid-brain and following the path of the optic nerve, which were discovered by Ramon y Cajal in birds and by Monakow, Edinger and others in man, conduct stimuli which cause movements of plasma and chemical processes in the retina. However this may be, the case is of neurological interest, proving, as it does, that an optical phenomenon of irritation in a case of migraine is caused by peripheral processes in the medulla. [J.]