

**Austregésilo, A.** CATAPHRENIAS. [Semana Medica, Buenos Aires, Sept. 19, 1918, 25, No. 38, p. 365.]

Austregésilo defines cataphrenia as a state of mental debility of the dementia type, differing from dementia, in that it may retrogress allowing complete recovery. Diagnosis in a number of patients of this type varies between dementia præcox, chronic mental confusion and manic depression, and insanity of the confusional or stupid form. In from six months to three years the marked improvement or complete cure made him revise his theories as to the nature of the psychosis. A few cases, of young men and women, are described, illustrating this acquired psychic abnormality which may retrogress or may progress to actual dementia præcox, chronic mental or catatonoid manic-depressive insanity.

**Naville, F.** MENSTRUAL PSYCHOSIS. [Revue Médicale de la Suisse Romande, Geneva, Oct. 1918, 38, No. 10, p. 591.]

A case of "dream delirium" where the erotic element was accompanied by melancholia, ideas of suicide and a tendency to mania. A young woman, of the microcephalous type, with a tendency to migraine and dysmenorrhea, was unable as a child to keep up with her mathematics. Care should be taken not to regard every acute mental incident in a person naturally below par or a psychopath as a necessary indication of a psychosis with a progressive course such as dementia præcox. In this case the regulation of menstruation and other functions was soon followed by subsidence of the psychosis, in the young woman, who, although still childish and emotional, has had no recurrence during the six years to date.

**Naville.** DREAM DELIRIUM OF A DEBILE IN A MENSTRUAL PSYCHOSIS. [Rev. Med. de la Suisse, Romande, Oct. 20, 1918.]

Lasegue originally described this affection in 1881 under the name *Delire de Rêve*, and by Regis in 1894 as *Dream Delirium*. Occurring in various mental states, and recently much studied by Freudians, it has not often occurred in true psychoses. The patient was a microcephalic debile. Apparently a case of frank hebephrenia, the subject recently employed as a chambermaid, developed the psychic symptoms rapidly. Of average capacity she possessed common sense and a good disposition. The attack beginning with a menstrual period, was associated with habitual dysmenorrhea and migraine. Her periods even before a truly pathological state had developed, were marked by irregular behavior, which came to a paroxysm in insane acts of self accusation, and she was committed as irresponsible. Insight came after internment, although the true mental defect became evident in her evincing the motor celerity of the microcephalic. Occasional continuous laughter was followed by the peculiar dream state when, after a night-