giving rise to a *status spongiosus*. A connective-tissue framework arising from the blood-vessels forms a supporting structure for the degenerated areas. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Sedimentation Rate of Red Cells in Malarial Therapy. (*Riv. Speriment. di Freniatria, liv*, 3, *September*, 1930.) *Benvenuti, M.*

The author has investigated the sedimentation rate in general paralysis and in non-paretic syphilis. He regards the increased sedimentation rate which occurs in the former as an aid to differentiation from the latter. The sedimentation rate in general paralysis, often high before malarial treatment, may reach a very high level during such treatment. On occasion malarial therapy brings the sedimentation rate to normal. H. W. EDDISON.

The Blood Electrolyte Changes in Narcosis, with Special Reference to Calcium and Potassium. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., September*, 1930.) *Katzenelbogen, S.*

The author investigated the blood chemistry in rabbits under narcosis induced by ether in 10 animals, and by dial in 58 experiments on 41 animals. He found no significant modifications in the CO_3-combining power or the phosphorus or magnesium contents. Potassium does not behave in a characteristic manner in narcosis, but there is always a decrease in calcium. There is a distinct relation between the rate of the decrease of calcium and the duration of sleep. In 14 out of 15 experiments the longer the sleep the greater the decrease of the calcium. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Comment on the Mechanism of Narcolepsy. (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis., October*, 1930.) *Wagner, C. P.*

The author summarizes briefly the literature on narcolepsy and describes two cases of his own. One case showed both sleep and cataplectic attacks, and the other cataplectic attacks only. In his first case the author was able to produce a cataplectic attack by an intravenous injection of afenil (a preparation of calcium chloride and urea). This patient's blood calcium, which had been 11 mgrm. per 100 c.c. of blood, was 16·5 mgrm. at the end of five minutes after the injection; in the healthy subject the figure should have returned to normal. Wagner thinks that there may be a momentary hypercalcæmia during a cataplectic attack which reduces muscle irritability to the extent of complete loss of muscle tonus. If calcium balance is controlled by an area in the floor of the third ventricle, may not a lesion in this region, by producing a disturbance of calcium balance, be responsible for the sleep and the cataplectic attacks? G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Incidence of Fever and Leucocytosis in Multiple Sclerosis. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., September*, 1930.) *McKenna, J. B.*

The author studied the records of 109 verified cases of multiple sclerosis with reference to changes in temperature, leucocyte count