

Rolandic sulcus, and coincident, according to modern physiological knowledge, with the motor area; and an anterior portion, the regio frontalis, which extends to the frontal pole and orbital surface, of whose precise function, even in man, hardly anything is yet known. While in lower mammals this frontal cortex proper is almost entirely wanting, it develops in the animal series in increasing degree, not only in superficial extent, but in respect of differentiation of its component areas. In the rabbit, for example, it constitutes only 2·2 *per cent.* of the total cortex; in man, 29 *per cent.*

How is Brodmann's work to be continued, and what new inquiries arise out of it? Some of the areas that he distinguished are not sharply demarcated, but fade into one another gradually; the limits assigned to these will have to be adjusted by other criteria, *e.g.*, the results of anatomical experiment. The cortex is directly connected with the thalamic nuclei; what particular cortical areas, then, are connected with particular thalamic nuclei? "I can see still," says Nissl, "the gleam in Brodmann's eyes as I showed him my preparations proving that his areas '24' and '32' in the rabbit are exclusively and directly connected with a certain thalamic nucleus of very characteristic structure." Clinical experience and pathological observations will doubtless help to clear up many points not yet settled. But the greatness of Brodmann's work, carefully and elaborately detailed as it is, does not lie in details; it lies in his thorough investigation of the cortex through the entire mammalian series from one unvarying standpoint. Whatever the future may have to tell us about the details, his fame as a chief creator of the science of the cyto-architectonics of the cortex is assured for all time; the practical usefulness of his principles is absolutely established. In comparative anatomy their usefulness for ascertaining homologies in different animals needs no further indication here. For anthropology his work opens a great vista: he himself, only a few days before his death, was working on Herero brains. The promise that it offers for neurology is obvious; his last published paper, for example, dealt with individual variations of the visual cortex and their clinical significance in cases of bullet-wound of the occiput. The promise for psychiatry is equally great, not only in the way of correlation of particular disease forms with particular distributions of cortical lesions, but in reference to arrests of cortical development and the persistence of fetal stages in lamination.

SYDNEY J. COLE.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Annual General Meeting.—(Provisional), July 13th, 1921, London.

Quarterly Meetings.—February 24th, 1921; May 26th, 1921.

South-Western Division.—April 24th, 1921.

Northern and Midland Division.—April 21st, 1921, Gateshead Mental Hospital, Stannington.

APPOINTMENTS.

WALKERS, ENID M., M.B., B.S.Lond., Assistant Medical Officer, Dorset County Mental Hospital, Dorchester.

WILSON, A. C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Senior Assistant Medical Officer to Peckham House.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

N.B.—The Editors will be glad to receive contributions of interest, clinical records, etc., from members (whether these have been read at meetings or not) for publication in the Journal. They will also feel obliged if contributors will send in their papers at as early a date as possible in each quarter.

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