Part III.—Epitome of Current Literature.*

1. Anatomy and Physiology.

Functional Relationship between the Corpus Callosum and the Cerebral Cortex [*Rapporti funzionali tra corpo calloso e corteccia cerebrale*]. (*Rassegna di Studi Psichiat., vol. xxiv, p.* 995, *Nov.–Dec.*, 1935.) *Magri, F.*

After reviewing the anatomical connections between the corpus callosum and the cerebral cortex the author discusses in general the functional relationship between the two. He concludes that the corpus callosum may be divided functionally into three zones—(1) anterior, verbal, (2) middle, motor and praxic, and (3) posterior, sensory. He recalls that all the fibres connecting the areas of the cortex concerned with psychic processes pass through all three zones, and that a tumour anywhere in the corpus callosum is apt to induce mental symptoms.

H. W. EDDISON.

The Effects of Occipital Lobectomy on Vision in Chimpanzee. (*Brain, vol. lix, p.* 35, *March*, 1936.) *Spence, K. W., and Fulton, J. F.*

An adolescent chimpanzee's visual activity having been carefully determined by the Ives visual acuity test over an intermediate range of brightness levels was subjected to the following operations: (1) complete extirpation of the left occipital lobe, and (2) extirpation of the posterior and lateral portions of the area striata of the right hemisphere.

The results were: (1) The removal of the entire left area striata resulted in a slight but consistent loss in visual acuity ranging from approximately 5 to 15% at four brightness levels. (2) Following the second operation, which left the animal with only the anterior portion of the right area striata intact, there was complete failure to discriminate a pattern sixteen times as large as that discriminated in the pre-operative tests.

Rough tests suggested that a right homonymous hemianopia resulted from the first operation, while the second spared only the extreme left peripheral fields, i.e., the temporal half. This latter result supports the view that the occipital pole of the area striata represents the macular projection area, and the anterior portion of the area striata round the calcarine fissure is the cortical terminus of the extreme peripheral retinal elements.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

General Character of the Unconditioned Reflex Activity of the Two Parotid Glands. (*Med. exptl.* [*Ukraine*], *No.* 2, *pp.* 66–73, 1935.) *Sklyarov, Ya. P.*

The activity of the glands depended on the localization of the stimulant (food) in the mouth; when placed on the right side the right gland worked more intensively; when the stimulant was on the left side the left gland secreted more. Apparently the excitation spreads along one side of the reflex arc with very little crossing.

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