

allergic susceptibility. The presence of a contracted eye-field is not a definite contra-indication to treatment with tryparsamide. Frequently ocular symptoms attributed to the drug exist before treatment and are due to the syphilis.

M. H. (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Prevention of Nutritional Encephalomalacia by Gelatine.* (Chinese Journ. Physiol., vol. xii, pp. 281-8, 1937.) Ni, T. G.

Nutritional encephalomalacia in chickens caused by the special diet of Pappenheimer and Goettsch is preventable by the addition of fat-free gelatine. It is considered that gelatine inhibits in some way the excessive activity of the Rouget cells which cause prolonged vasoconstriction with subsequent necrosis of areas in the cerebrum and cerebellum.

L. A. M. (Chem. Abstr.).

*Some Undescribed Pharmacological Properties of Bulbocapnine.* (Journ. Pharmacol., vol. lxii, pp. 16-25, 1938.) Molitor, H.

Bulbocapnine produces a marked peripheral vasodilation in the ear, extremities and kidney, while its effect on the intestinal circulation is slight. Several of its effects suggest parasympathetic stimulation; hence the effects of atropine injection and of cutting the vagi on the bulbocapnine action were studied. Although such symptoms as salivation, defæcation and miosis were abolished, the action on the peripheral circulation was not affected. Repeated administration does not materially affect the vascular action of bulbocapnine itself, but decreases the effect of a subsequent adrenaline injection. The effects of pituitrin are not changed. The movements of intestine *in vitro* and *in situ* are depressed by bulbocapnine. The coagulation time of the blood is not affected. The vaso-constrictor reflexes regularly observed in the rabbit ear after sensory, thermal or mechanical stimulation are completely suppressed.

L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Effects of a New Brain-stimulating Agent, Aktedron, in Health and in Disease.* (Orvosi Hetilap, vol. lxxxi, pp. 1151-6, 1937.) Lehoczký, T.

Aktedron (benzedrine phosphate) stimulates the functions of the cerebral cortex and is strongly euphoristic. No increase of blood-pressure was observed, but in three cases the abnormal electrocardiograph curve was much improved.

S. S. DE FINALY (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Biological Effect of Aktedron.* (Orvosi Hetilap, vol. lxxxii, pp. 32-6, 1938.) Csinády, J., and Dirner, Z.

Caffeine sodium benzoate (0.2 grm.) and 0.2 grm. aktedron (benzedrine phosphate) were administered on successive days. Physical well-being and some forms of mental activity were increased, but work requiring mental concentration was retarded.

S. S. DE FINALY (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Effect of Benzedrine Sulphate on Children taking the New Stanford Achievement Test.* (Amer. Journ. Orthopsychiat., vol. vii, p. 519, Oct., 1937.) Molitch, M., and Sullivan, J. P.

The new Stanford achievement test was given to 96 boys between the ages of 10-17. About a week later 50 of the boys were given 10 mgrm. benzedrine and the remainder a placebo and retested. Twenty-six who either lost or failed to improve their total average score more than 5 points were given 20 mgrm. of benzedrine and again retested. Although 8.6% of the boys on the placebo showed a gain in their scores, yet the group as a whole showed a loss of 29 points of total (average) score. 32% of the boys on 10 mgrm. of benzedrine gained in their scores and the group as a whole showed a gain of 63 points. Of the boys who were retested, after having been given 20 mgrm. of benzedrine, 92.3% gained in their scores, and the entire group showed a gain of 117 points of total average score.

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