

totally occluded, and in 53.5% there was some toxæmia or reflex nervous influences.

The authors conclude that softening may occur suddenly and is the result of arteritis, acute or chronic, together with one of the following factors: Vascular spasm, transient cardio-arterial insufficiency or toxæmia. The paper closes with some notes on the prevention and treatment of softening and with special details of three cases in which the vessels were only slightly sclerosed.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

The Parathyroids. (*Psychol. Bull.*, vol. xxv, No. 1, January, 1928.)
Rockwell, J. G.

A short review of the literature giving a bibliography of 124 papers dating from 1892 to 1927.

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

Histo-chemical Study of the Senile Plaques of Redlich-Fischer [*Étude histo-chimique des plaques séniles.*] (*Journ. de Neur. et Psychiat.*, November, 1927.) Divry, P.

The author begins by some notes on the opinions held by various workers on senile plaques since their first description and proceeds to develop his own opinion that these bodies are local deposits of hyaline amyloid material in the cerebral cortex. The paper is illustrated by eight micro-photographs.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

Perimetry [*La périmétrie quantitative*]. (*Journ. de Neur. et Psychiat.*, December, 1927.) Gaudenart, Dr.

Dr. Gaudenart calls attention to the importance of the use of the perimeter in neurology, and emphasizes the fact that its utility consists not merely in the measuring of the extent of the fields of vision, but also in the determination of variation in the visual acuity at different points in these fields. The instruments of Bjerrum and Clifford Walker are described, and also the technique of the examination and the interpretation of the results.

R. S. GIBSON.

Accidental Effects of Lumbar Puncture, with their Treatment [*Les accidents de la ponction lombaire et leur traitement*]. (*Prat. Méd. Franç.*, May, 1927.) Targowla, R., et Lamache, A.

The authors state that ill-effects follow lumbar puncture in a fairly high proportion of cases. These ill-effects are grouped under four headings, and illustrated by cases from the authors' own experience with notes on the appropriate treatment of each condition. The groups are: Effects due to hypotension of the cerebro-spinal fluid after puncture; effects due to hypertension shortly after puncture, the cerebro-spinal fluid being secreted in increasing quantities; cases in which symptoms of meningism appear; and cases where the operation is followed by collapse.

R. S. GIBSON.