

*The Blood-sugar in Relation to Emotional Reactions.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. *xiii*, p. 987, March, 1934.) *Whitehorn, J. C.*

In psychotic persons emotional excitement rarely, if ever, produces any rise in the fasting blood-sugar. Melancholic reactions appear to depress the insulinogenic function of the pancreas. Usually this depression of function is demonstrable only as a moderately delayed demobilization of glucose, under a load; thus fasting blood-sugars fall within normal limits except in those few persons, usually older than 45 years, whose capacity is already limited by diabetes or other organic disease.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*The Genetic Relationships of Blood Groups and Schizophrenia.* (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. *xiii*, p. 1285, May, 1934.) *Yorshis, M., and Gottlieb, J.*

From a review of the literature no definite correlation between blood groups and schizophrenia could be established, although there was some evidence of an increase in those groups containing the agglutinin B. From an analysis of 21 intact schizophrenic families, it appeared that there was no atypical distribution of blood groups, save a problematic increase in Group III for the schizophrenics; that the distribution of blood groups according to sex showed no significant differences, and that there was a trend indicating a higher incidence of schizophrenic sons following the blood group of the father and of schizophrenic daughters following the blood group of the mother than in normal sons and daughters of the same families.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Basal Metabolism in Asthma and Epilepsy.* (*Amer. Journ. Dis. Child.*, vol. *xvi*, p. 963, 1933.) *Topper, A., and Mulier, H.*

The basal metabolic rate of children tends to be lower than normal in asthma and in epilepsy.

E. R. MAIN (Chem. Abstr.).

*Absorption of Urea from the Bladder.* (*Arch. Surg.*, vol. *xxviii*, p. 180, 1934.) *Fender, F. A.*

The inflamed bladder mucosa transmits urea in quantities sufficient to raise the non-protein N of the blood appreciably. This may be a factor in the development of uræmia in patients with neurologically incapacitated bladders.

J. T. M. (Chem. Abstr.).

*Curves Showing the "Inhibition Phenomenon" in Urine and Spinal Fluid under Various Febrile Conditions.* (*Boll. soc. Ital. biol. sper.*, vol. *viii*, p. 1459, 1933.) *Donaggio, A.*

After the injection of chemical substances having pyretogenic properties (sulphur, proteins, vaccines, etc.) the reaction is not revealed by the urine or spinal fluid until 24–36 hours after the injection, or 12–24 hours after the onset of fever.

Physical agents such as general diathermy do not produce this latent period. Malarial pyretogenesis causes the reaction to appear in the urine a few hours before the onset of fever. Urine or spinal fluid which give a positive "inhibition reaction" lose this property if dialysed or if mixed with kaolin or animal charcoal and filtered.

P. MASUCCI (Chem. Abstr.).

*Donaggio's "Inhibition Phenomenon" in the Urine and in the Spinal Fluid of Neuro- and Psychopathic Individuals.* (*Boll. soc. Ital. biol. sper.*, vol. *viii*, p. 1476, 1933.) *Canziani, G., and Longo, V.*

Normal individuals gave a negative Donaggio reaction; a delayed precipitation of the thionine was occasionally noted. Individuals in the febrile state (malaria, suppurative processes) gave a positive Donaggio reaction. There was a close parallelism between the Donaggio and Buscaino reactions. Epileptics only in