

Resorption of Cerebro-spinal Fluid through the Choroid Plexus.
(*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, January, 1928.) Forbes, H. S.,
Fremont-Smith, F., and Wolff, H. G.

The authors injected into the subarachnoid space a freshly prepared solution shown by Weed to be non-toxic, and consisting of equal parts of potassium ferro-cyanide 1% and iron ammonium citrate 1%. This solution was diluted with an equal volume of distilled water. After a short interval, from 20–30 c.c. of a 30% solution of sodium chloride was injected intravenously or into the peritoneal cavity. Prussian blue granules were found within the vessels of the choroid plexus in each of the twelve animals examined, indicating that the direction of flow of the cerebro-spinal fluid through the choroid plexus may be reversed by increasing the osmotic pressure of the blood. In the authors' opinion the choroid plexus may be regarded as a semi-permeable membrane, and the cerebro-spinal fluid as a true dialysate. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Results of Histopathological Researches on the Nervous System in Dementia Præcox during the Years 1924–25. (*Riv. di Pat. Nerv. e Ment.*, July–August, 1926.) Buscaino, V. M.

Buscaino's review of the work for the years 1924–25, with a comprehensive bibliography. He found that in 50% of cases of dementia præcox there have been lesions, (either pre- or post-natal) of the brain or of its membranes. They are not inflammatory in type, but are degenerative. Among the more important changes are nerve-cell degeneration, foci of glial variation, scattered lesions of the nerve pathways, sieve-like conditions, lacunar conditions, foci of rarefaction or of demyelination of the nerve-fibres. These focal lesions occur not only in the cerebral cortex, but also in the basal ganglia, in the mid-brain, cerebellum, and the pons, and even in the medulla. The cortex and especially the thalamus are the most constant sites. In catatonic cases lesions of the striatum and of the other extrapyramidal nuclei are frequent. The brain in dementia præcox is thus permeated with microscopic foci. Sometimes the lesions are concentrated in the frontal lobes, particularly in the third, fifth and sixth layers. The process at work in the nervous system is of exogenous origin and shows a predilection for the third layer. It is probably due to a basic substance—a toxic amine. The fact that the lesions are hardly ever distributed in the same way in two cases accounts for the diversity of symptoms. The author traces the disorder in catatonics to the affection of the extra-pyramidal system. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

5. Treatment.

Über Therapeutische Verwertung von Zentralnervensystem-Substanz
[*On the Therapeutic Use of Central Nervous System Substance*].
(*Psych.-Neurol. Wochens.*, February 4, 1928, No. 5.) Weygandt,
W.

An advocacy of, and a defence against an attack on, a therapeutic preparation known as "promonta." A. WOHLGEMUTH.