in chronic experiments. The violent effect of coagulants could be prevented or modified by the simultaneous or previous administration of anticoagulants, e.g., cysteine and germanin. It is suggested that a coagulant effect leading to thrombosis may have a place in the pathogenesis of human " encephalomyelitis " and multiple sclerosis. The therapeutic implications are obvious.

MARION HORN (Chem. Abstr.).

Neurotoxic Symptoms, Especially Catatonia, Produced in Mice by Substances from Human Urine. (*Proc. Acad. Sci. Amsterdam, vol. xli, pp.* 316–23, 1938.) *Nieuwenhuyzen, F. J.*

Urea is cataleptic only in a dose of 10 mgrm. per grm. body-weight of mouse. Uric acid and creatinine are not toxic. The oxyproteic acid fraction (obtained by O. v. Fürth's method—*C.A.*, i, *p.* 2917) produces negativism in a dose of about 0·3 mgrm. per grm. body-weight. In higher doses catalepsy and hyperkinesis were observed. Dimethylguanidine in a dose of about 0·11 mgrm. per grm. body-weight produces the kangaroo attitude, hyperkinesis, ataxia and tremors. Histamine produces catalepsy and paresis in a dose of about 0·1 mgrm. per grm. body-weight. Indolemethylamine (0·3 mgrm. per grm.) produces atonia and paresis. Nicotine (0·075 mgrm. per grm.) produces negativism, action tremor and catalepsy.

STEPHAN K. MAYER (Chem. Abstr.).

Cerebral Injury in the Newborn Due to Anoxia at Birth. (*Journ. Mich. State Med. Soc., vol. xxxvii, pp.* 145–50, 1938.) *Schreiber, F., and Gates, N.*

Convulsions, spasticity and mental retardation in 300 children are ascribed to asphyxia at birth due to heavy maternal analgesia by morphine, sodium amytal, nembutal, dial and (most frequently) scopolamine.

MARION HORN (Chem. Abstr.).

Action of Strychnine on the Spinal Ganglia and Anterior Cornu Cells of the Spinal Cord of Guinea-pigs. (*Arb. Med. Fakultät Okayama, vol. v, pp.* 357–63, 1938.) *Kanatsu, H.*

A chromatolysis is not observed, but a pyknotic change is found in the anterior horn and spinal ganglia cells during strychnine poisoning. The Golgi apparatus splits into small threads and granules, which, with increasing strychnine doses, become smaller in size and fewer in number. H. COHEN (Chem. Abstr.).

Role of the Autonomic Nervous System in the " Lesions at a Distance " Observed in Animals Poisoned with Bis (*2-chloroethyl*) *sulphide.* (*Compt. Rend. Soc. Biol., vol. cxxvii, pp.* 46–9, 1938.) *Gastinel, P., and Sohier, R.*

The compound often causes damage to parts of the body remote from the point of application. This effect is probably transmitted through the sympathetic nervous system. In guinea-pigs the application of 0·1–0·5 mgrm. to the left splanchnic nerve caused congestion, and sometimes hæmorrhagic lesions, in the liver, kidneys and digestive tract. Diarrhœa, albuminuria, convulsions and death followed. The same doses given subcutaneously or applied to the sciatic nerve did not cause severe symptoms. Similar results were obtained in rabbits when 6 mgrm. was applied to the splanchnic. L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.).

Hyperglycæmia Produced by Sympathin in Emotional Excitement. (*Amer. Journ. Physiol., vol. cxxi, pp.* 738–46, 1938.) *Bodo, R. C., and Benaglia, A. E.*

Emotional excitement unaccompanied by struggle causes either no change or only a slight rise in the blood-sugar level in adrenal-inactivated and liver-denervated cats in contrast to the marked hyperglycæmia in normal cats with a much shorter period of excitement. E. D. W. (Chem. Abstr.).