

*Lipoid Content of the Blood in Deficiency Diseases and During Demyelination of the Nervous System.* (*Arch. Neur. and Psychiat.*, vol. xxxix, p. 284, Feb., 1938.) Gildea, E. F.

The writer investigated the blood lipoids of 12 patients with severe deficiency diseases. Seven had severe undernutrition and 4 had not, but all had marked lesions of the nervous system. The cholesterol and phosphatide contents of the serum were either much below or close to normal in all the undernourished patients. The values for total fatty acids were low in four and close to the median figure for normal in three others.

The figures for total fatty acids, cholesterol and phosphatides were either within or above the range of high normal values in the well-nourished patients. Malnutrition by itself accounts for the low lipid content of the blood in deficiency diseases.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Morbid Anatomy of a Case of Wilson's Disease* [*Studio anatomo-patologico di un caso di malattia epato-lenticolare di Wilson*]. (*Riv. di Pat. Nerv. e Ment.*, vol. I, p. 520, Nov.-Dec., 1937.) Vidari, E.

The author describes a case of Wilson's disease in a man of 50, who had hepatic cirrhosis with large nodules, enlarged spleen with no ascites or jaundice, and gross destruction of the putamen and the hypothalamic nucleus of Luys. Microscopically there was intense glial fibrosis of the putamen, but not of the hypothalamic nucleus referred to.

H. W. EDDISON.

*Oxygen Metabolism in Schizophrenia.* (*Arch. Neur. and Psychiat.*, vol. xxxviii, p. 1261, Dec., 1937.) Hoskins, R. G.

Research work carried out at the Worcester State Hospital has shown that the rate of oxygen consumption estimated by the method of Benedict and Roth has a lower range in the schizophrenic than in the normal individual. There is a lower range of blood volumes when referred to the surface areas in schizophrenia. The circulatory rate determined by the cyanide method is only 80% of the normal rate. The glutathione and lactic acid levels of the blood were fairly independent in control subjects, but were rather closely related in the schizophrenic. The schizophrenic is less responsive than normal to thyroid, and probably less responsive to dinitrophenol and amino-acid.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Formation of Phosphatides in the Brain Tissue of Adult Animals.* (*Skand. Arch. Physiol.*, vol. lxxvii, pp. 148-57, 1937.) Hahn, L., and Hevesy, G.

One hour after the subcutaneous injection of phosphate containing radio-active phosphorus it was found that the lecithin of the brain of an adult rat, mouse or rabbit shows the presence of the radio-active phosphorus.

S. MORGULIS (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Effect of Osmotic Pressure on the Autonomic Nerves.* (*Jikken. Yakubuts. Z.*, vol. xii, pp. 293-323, 1936; *Japan Journ. Med. Sci.*, vol. iv; *Pharmacol.*, vol. x; *Abstracts*, 15.) Imai, S.

Tests were made on various isolated organs of rabbits with various drugs acting on the autonomic system. Hyper-osmosis decreased the sensitivity of the sympathetic nerve-endings, but increased the sensitivity of the para-sympathetic nerve-endings. Hypotonic solutions had the opposite effect.

JAMES C. MUNCH (Chem. Abstr.).

*Anaphylaxis in Decerebrated Monkeys.* (*Journ. Lab. Clin. Med.*, vol. xxiii, pp. 30-2, 1937.) Davidoff, L. M., Kopeloff, N., and Kopeloff, L. M.

Removal of the cerebrum in monkeys previously sensitized to egg albumen failed to prevent fatal anaphylactic shock within 6 minutes after the injection of the test antigen. Sensitized, unoperated monkeys died within 4 minutes. Unsensitized, decerebrated monkeys were unaffected by the injection of the same amount of antigen.

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