The Pathology of Tuberculous Meningitis. II : Tissue Chemistry. (*Monatsschr. f. Kinderheilk., vol. lxiv, pp.* 263–7, 1935–6.) *Moritz, D., v., and Kulcsar, M.*

The brains of 10 infants and children who died of tuberculous meningitis were analysed for Cl, residual N, total solids and effect on the f.p. Cl is decreased, significantly more in grey than in white matter, the residual N is normal or lowered, and the f.p. is higher, as compared with normal brains. It is probable that hypochloræmia and hypoösmosis contribute to the nervous symptoms.

E. M. HUMPHREYS.

The Demonstration of Tryptophane in the Cerebro-spinal Fluid in Tuberculous Meningitis. (*Monatsschr. f. Kinderheilk., vol. lxv, pp.* 41–4, 1936.) *Bock, H.*

In all 19 cases of tuberculous meningitis the cerebro-spinal fluid gave a positive colour test for tryptophane, while only 3 of 100 control cases reacted positively. This test is an aid to the early diagnosis of tuberculous meningitis.

E. M. HUMPHREYS (Chem. Abstr.).

The Calcium Content of Cerebro-spinal Fluid in Experimental Tetany. (*Zeitschr. f. Kinderheilk., vol. lvii, pp.* 467–73, 1935.) *Siwe, S.*

The Ca content of cerebro-spinal fluid does not vary greatly from the ultra-filtrable Ca of the blood-serum, while the P is regularly lower than in the serum ultra-filtrate. When the Ca : P relationships of the serum are altered, as in phosphate tetany, a parallel shift does not occur, and osmotic relations in the fluid are maintained by a migration of other ions. This signifies that selective action rather than simple dialysis determines the composition of cerebro-spinal fluid.

E. M. HUMPHREYS (Chem. Abstr.).

Influence of Bile-Salts on the Nervous System Following Intraspinal Usage. (*Proc. Soc. Exptl. Biol. Med., vol. xxxii, pp.* 1201–4, 1935.) *Lichtman, S. S., and Stern, E. L.*

In the cat sodium desoxycholate in minute doses in aqueous solution was injected intraspinally in the lumbar region without untoward effects or injury to the cord ; larger doses produced motor and sensory disturbances and even death from respiratory paralysis. Traumatized spinal cord tissue was highly susceptible to alcoholic solutions of bile-salts. Spinal-fluid protein and cord tissue reduced the hæmolytic action of bile-salts.

C. V. BAILEY (Chem. Abstr.).

The Relationship between Body-build and Serum Lipoids, and a Discussion of these Qualities as Pyknophilic and Leptophilic Factors in the Structure of the Personality. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat., vol. xcii, p.* 1247, *May,* 1936.) *Gildea, E. J., Kahn, E., and Man, E. B.*

The writers found that the serum lipoids were consistently higher in 17 men of pyknic body-build than in 24 of leptosome physique. The serum lipoid values of 16 normal men who were neither pyknic nor leptosome corresponded closely to the mean value for all the 57 males. The difference between the total fatty acids of the pyknics and leptosomes was marked, being 8·7 times as large as the probable error of the difference. In a similar group of 45 women the differences were not clear cut. The serum fatty acids tended to be higher in the pyknic women than in the leptosome, the difference being 2·5 times as large as the probable error of the difference.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

A Comparison of the Weights of Brain, Liver, Heart, Spleen and Kidneys of Epileptic and Schizophrenic Patients. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat., vol. xcii, p.* 1439, *May,* 1936.) *Moore, M., and Lennox, W. G.*

From a study of 143 epileptics, 284 schizophrenics and 194 patients dying in a general hospital, the authors found no difference between the epileptics and