

is mental defect, combined with characteristic constitutional features and neurological symptoms (rigid posture, muscular hypertonus and hyperkinesias) and exaggeration of the deep reflexes. Biochemically the disease is probably similar to alkaptonuria and tyrosinosis.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*Preservation of Urines Containing Phenylpyruvic Acid* [*Conservation des urines contenant de l'acide phénylpyruvique*]. (*Comptes Rend. Soc. Biol.*, vol. cxxiii, p. 807, 1936.) Rhein, M., and Stoerber, R.

Seven cases of phenylketonuria were found out of 650 mental hospital patients whose urines were tested; six of these gave a constant reaction and the seventh an intermittent one.

In order to preserve the phenylpyruvic acid in these urines, it was found advisable to add chloroform at once and to adjust the reaction to pH 4.

L. S. PENROSE.

*Congenital Syphilis in a Monoovular Twin.* (*Lancet*, Feb. 6, 1937.) Penrose, L. S.

A pair of monoovular female twins is described: both were mentally defective, but one of them showed signs of congenital syphilis, and was inferior, both mentally and physically, to the other. The diagnosis of monoovularity was based on examination of eye and hair colour, finger-print patterns and blood grouping.

L. S. PENROSE.

*Mongolism and Achondroplasia in Twin Brothers.* (*Proc. Roy. Soc. Med.*, vol. xxvii, Section for the Study of Disease in Children, p. 3, Dec., 1933.) Lapage, C. P.

The twins recorded were born to a healthy young primipara. The mongol, of whom there is a photographic record, died at 5½ months. Radiograms were taken of the achondroplastic twin. The family history was negative for achondroplasia. The cases are of particular interest in relation to Jansen's view of the ætiology of mongolism.

L. S. PENROSE.

*A Survey of Mongolism, with a Review of One Hundred Cases.* (*Canadian Med. Assoc. Journ.*, vol. xxxiii, p. 495, 1935.) Warner, E. N.

The writer gives no clinical details of the cases which she studied, but provides a general review of the subject. Maternal age is considered to be important ætiologically. The relation of mongolism to experimental endocrinology is discussed.

L. S. PENROSE.

*Mongolism in Non-identical Twins.* (*Amer. Journ. Dis. Child.*, vol. lii, p. 141, 1936.) MacKaye, L.

A pair of male mongols is described, aged 18 months, whose father and mother were aged about 42 and 40 respectively at the time of their birth. Evidence of binovularity is inconclusive but suggestive: there was a difference in iris colour. The brown-eyed twin had diaphragmatic hernia and a deeply furrowed tongue; his pulse and respiration were more rapid than those of the blue-eyed twin and he weighed less.

L. S. PENROSE.

*On the Occurrence of Mongolian Idiocy; with a Contribution to the Case-material of Mongolian Twins* [*Über das Vorkommen der mongoloiden Idiotie, sowie ein Beitrag zur Kasuistik der mongoloiden Zwillinge*]. (*Monatsschr. f. Kinderheilk.*, vol. lxvi, p. 400, 1936.) Hellsten, H.

The writer describes two instances of twinning in which one child was a mongol and the other normal. In the first instance a female mongol had a normal male