The Physical Type of Tabetics [*Sulla constituzione morfologica dei tabetici*]. (*Riv. di Neur., vol. vi, p.* 535, *Oct.*, 1933.) *Poppi, U.*

The author confirms his previous work. He found that the majority of cases ot pure tabes were of the microsplanchnic and tall and slender type. Those with optic atrophy belonged to the megalosplanchnic and broad type. Intermediate types occur. The same relation occurs between tabes and general paralysis. X-ray examination of the skull in tabetics frequently shows a sella turcica smaller than normal ; and this the author thinks accounts for the hypopituitarism, which is responsible for the morphological peculiarities in turn.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

---

4. Neurology.

A Contribution to the Study of Friedreich's Disease [*Contribución al estudio de la enfermedad de Friedreich*]. (*Arch. de Neurobiol., vol. xiii, p.* 1025, 1933.) *del Cañizo, A., d'Ors, J. P., and Alvarez-Sala, J. L.*

The ætiology of Friedreich's disease consists fundamentally of an alteration in the embryonic ectoderm, the resulting pathological condition being a gliomatous invasion which almost always starts in the column of Goll. The authors consider that there is good reason to define a group of cases under the title of hereditary cerebro-spinal degeneration. Attention is called to certain electro-cardiac changes which may be found in these cases. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

Vascular Neuro-Cutaneous Syndromes [*Los sindromes vasculares neuro-cutáneos*]. (*Arch. de Neurobiol., vol. xiii, p.* 1099, 1933.) *Subirana, A.*

These syndromes, clinically manifested by the association of a nævus, which is usually situated in the cutaneous area of the trigeminal nerve, with central neurological changes, are not so rare as has been claimed by some writers. Three cases are described and discussed. The author claims to have established a certain differentiation between the cases in which the neurological manifestations appear in infancy and are accompanied by patent signs of neuro-somatic degeneration, and the cases in which the disturbances appear later. Good results were, in one case, obtained by radio-therapy, applied by means of a new technique, and this would appear to open up fresh vistas in the treatment of angiomata of the central nervous system. M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

A Note Concerning the Syndrome of Cauda Equina Radiculitis. (*Bull. Neur. Inst. N.Y., vol. iii, p.* 501, *March*, 1934.) *Cramer, F.*

This paper is an analytical study of the case-records of 26 patients with typical syndrome of cauda equina radiculitis ; 15 cases were verified at operation. In 15% of the cases the syndrome was secondary to some other pathological condition, such as sarcomatosis or Paget's disease of the spine, the real nature of which did not become apparent until very late in the course of the disease. 69% showed local arthritic changes of such degree as to suggest a direct relationship to the symptoms of root compression. More than 85% of the cases, therefore, have positive or strong presumptive evidence of primary disease outside the myelo-radicular system itself to account for the symptomatology resembling that from pressure. Inasmuch as there is no proved primary cause to be seen in this analysis to account for the symptomatology in the smaller group of cases (15%), it is quite possible that they may represent a " true " myelo-radiculitis, i.e., one with a toxic or infectious basis. J. L. FAULL.