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Studies on Headache		

Cranial-artery pulse waves were recorded two to five times a week from 75 migraine subjects. More than 5,000 samples were assembled of cranial-artery pulse-wave tracings taken at various intervals prior to, during, and after migraine headache attacks. Seventy-two cranial-artery pulse-wave records were also obtained from 10 subjects who seldom or never had had headache and who did not have headache during the three months' period of observation.

One hundred consecutive right-temporal-artery pulse waves recorded from each of 10 headache-free migraine subjects were measured and compared with similar records obtained from 10 subjects who never had headache. From the data the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The caliber of the temporal artery was significantly larger in the headache-free migraine group than in the non-headache group. Also, the caliber during the headache attack was larger than that during the headache-free period, and much larger than that in the non-headache subjects.

2. The migraine group, as contrasted with the non-headache group, exhibited greater variability of the contractile state of the observed vascular bed.

3. In the migraine group the characteristic variability of the temporal-artery pulse-wave contours became more striking about 72 hours prior to the onset of headache and was maximal at the height of the headache attack.

4. The pulse-wave contour changes associated with the headache attack merely punctuated a more or less continuous physiological process and may be viewed as part of the life adjustment of these persons.

(Authors' Abstr.)

Factors that Influence Prognosis in Acute Focal Cerebrovascular Lesions

A study was made of 223 patients who had acute focal cerebrovascular lesions and who were observed at the Mayo Clinic during a period of two years. Of the entire group of patients, 82.5 per cent. had cerebral infarction without embolism, 10.8 per cent. had cerebral embolism accompanied by infarction, and 6.7 per cent. had focal intracerebral hemorrhage. Factors that influenced the prognosis in these patients were age; existence of hypertension

Factors that influenced the prognosis in these patients were age; existence of hypertension or cardiac disease or both; speed of onset of the symptoms, and whether the lesion was simple infarction, embolism, or hemorrhage.

Injection of procaine into the stellate ganglion did not appear to influence the prognosis. (Authors' Abstr.)

Some Relationships of Intelligence, Mental Efficiency, Mental Deterioration and Disease

There were marked mean age differences among the various disease groups.

There also were differences among the disease groups in the amount of education completed.

A rank-order coefficient of correlation between age and education of -0.73 indicated that the younger disease groups tended to have more education than the older disease groups.

The mean I.Q.s of nine disease groups and a total hospital group of 668 patients were determined. The mean I.Q. for the total group was 109 0. A rank-order coefficient of correlation of -0.45 between intelligence and age indicated

that the younger disease groups tended to have the higher mean I.Q.s. A rank-order coefficient of correlation of 0.73 between intelligence and years of schooling

A rank-order coefficient of correlation of 0.73 between intelligence and years of schooling completed indicated that the disease groups with the higher mean I.Q.s tended to have the most schooling.

Differences in mean intelligence were found among the various disease groups tested. Fifteen differences in mean I.Q. among the various disease groups were statistically significant at the 5 per cent. and higher levels of confidence.

The postpoliomyelitis, psychoneurosis, and tuberculosis groups had the highest mean I.Q.s, while the amputation, orthopedic, and ulcer groups had the lowest mean I.Q.s.

A separate analysis of approximately 500 test scores on the California Mental Maturity test was made of all the groups studied.

Percentages of mental efficiency and mental deterioration were determined for each of the disease groups. Three disease groups—arthritis, psychoneurosis, and ulcer—had more than 10 per cent. mental deterioration, suggesting the presence of significant organic damage or disorganization.

A rank-order coefficient of correlation between intelligence and mental deterioration was -0.65, which indicated that the groups with the lower mean I.Q.s tended to have more mental deterioration.

A rank-order coefficient of correlation of 0.27 between mental deterioration and age was found and a coefficient of 0.12 between mental deterioration and years of schooling was found.

It was concluded that persons with psychoneurosis and tuberculosis who also have high intelligence are more likely to seek and obtain prolonged treatment. There was no evidence that high intelligence leads to tuberculosis or psychoneurosis. There was some evidence that poliomyelitis patients of high intelligence tend to overwork and become excessively fatigued. Such a condition may be a factor leading to poliomyelitis infection. Jobs requiring hard physical work and danger are often held by men with low I.Q.s and

Jobs requiring hard physical work and danger are often held by men with low I.Q.s and little schooling. Such men are more prone to have accidents. Low I.Q.s together with the elements of hard labor and danger, may be factors in creating accidents which lead to amputation and orthopedic disabilities.

(Author's Abstr.)

Pituitary-Adrenal Cortex Reactivity in Schizophrenic Patients

A review of the controversy about the reactivity of the pituitary-adrenal cortex system in schizophrenic patients is presented.

The project reported here—set up for statistical evaluation of this reactivity—is outlined. The results of this investigation would tend to add weight to the conclusion that the reactivity is not impaired in schizophrenia.

It is confirmed that a number of nonspecific stress factors influence the level of pituitaryadrenal cortex activity.

The presence of false-negative responses in any evaluation of the pituitary-adrenal cortex system is emphasized.

Fasting and bed rest do not appear to have an important influence on the activity of this system.

Epinephrine in large doses loses its specificity.

Speculation about the refractoriness of the pituitary-adrenal cortex system is offered.

Electroshock therapy, both convulsive and subconvulsive, exercises a specific influence on the pituitary-adrenal cortex system.

Relative cosinophilia in schizophrenic patients was again found in this population, as has been reported by other authors. (Author's Abstr.)

Hallucinations in Braille

The case is reported of a young woman who, many years after the onset of blindness, had a schizophrenic reaction with hallucinations of hearing and of seeing. The visions were predominantly in braille. The hallucinations disappeared immediately after unilateral amygdaloidectomy. Suggestions are made as to the motor component of hallucinations and their similarity to the sonar mechanism employed by Cetacea and Chiroptera for the purpose of orientation. (Authors' Abstr.)

Effect of Carbon Tetrachloride on the Nervous System

Carbon tetrachloride is a common household article whose danger as a potentially lethal intoxicant has not been advertised sufficiently. Labeling of the container should be similar to that for other poisons, and the public should be educated regarding the deadly potency of the fluid. A single exposure can be fatal.

Alcohol imbibed during exposure greatly increases the toxicity of carbon tetrachloride, a fact that should also be better known.

Acute carbon tetrachloride poisoning is dominated by symptoms of the central nervous system, such as headache, diplopia, incoordination, paresthesias, impaired vision, confusion, and coma.

An etiological classification is tabulated.

Reports of neurological aspects of carbon tetrachloride intoxication are extremely meager, incomplete, and scattered.

A total of 15 cases of carbon tetrachloride poisoning are reported and typical ones cited. Neuropathological findings are described, and the literature is reviewed. (Authors' Abstr.)

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Hippocampal Seizures and Their Propagation

Weak electrical or mechanical stimulation of the fimbria hippocampi in cats induces motor fits and electrical discharges with characteristics having some similarity to those of psychomotor epilepsy. These discharges are not propagated through the fornix but spread through the commissural fibers of the psalterium to the temporal lobe and other parts of the cerebrum. The thalamus and hypothalamus are not essential in this propagation.

(Authors' Abstr.)

Figure-Ground Discrimination and the "Abstract Attitude" in Patients with Cerebral Neoplasms Forty patients with neoplasms of the cerebral hemispheres were tested on a modification of Gottschaldt's figure-ground visual discrimination, a Weigl type of sorting test, and the

of Gottschaldt's figure-ground visual discrimination, a Weigl type of sorting test, and the Wechsler-Bellevue Form 1. Twenty-four patients with either increased intracranial pressure of unknown origin or spinal cord tumors were used as control subjects. Results show that the group of patients with hemispheric lesions were significantly inferior in their performance on all tests to the control group. Individual patients, with or without cerebral damage, varied within wide limits on all the tests precluding any simple interpretation of a qualitative change in performance after a brain lesion. No significant differences between patients with pre- or post-Rolandic lesions could be found. These results indicate that "intellectual" deficits may be produced by lesions in any portion of the cerebral hemispheres, and not chiefly by frontal lobe involvement, as some authorities are still claiming. More adequate testing methods are needed to aid in the definition and solution of the problem of intellectual functioning and brain injury. (Authors' Abstr.)

Syringomyelia

Eight cases of syringomyelia are presented with necropsy. Some patients were observed for as long as 20 years. The course frequently is stormy for a few months or years, and the disease then becomes quiescent or only slowly progressive. Intramedullary neoplasms of the spinal cord constitute the chief diagnostic difficulty. Many types of sensory dissociation may be encountered in syringomyelia. In addition to the commonplace loss of pain and temperature sensation with preservation of touch; heat and cold sensation, pain and temperature sensibility, and vibratory and position sensation may be dissociated. There was loss of vibratory sensation with intact position sense early in the course in six of eight cases. Evidence is presented to show that pallesthetic fibers may not be situated in the posterior columns, but, rather, may lie in the medial portion of the lateral columns.

Treatment of the disease is wholly unsatisfactory. There have been no controlled experiments to determine the value of X-ray therapy or of surgery. The symptomatic improvement occasionally obtained may well be psychogenic. X-ray therapy lacks a rationale and, indeed, may be harmful.

It is shown that the central canal of the adult cord frequently is the site of a disorderly proliferation of ependyma. This contrasts with the single layer of epithelium found in the infant. It is concluded that such ependymal proliferation is an acquired variant rather than a congenital rest. Current ideas of the pathogenesis of syringomyelia are discussed, and a general theory of the pathogenesis of the disease is offered. This theory relates the developmental origin of the disease to anomalies of the intramedullary blood supply. When the patients reach adult life, vascular insufficiency and occlusions lead to cavitation, gliosis, and fibrosis. The theory is considered in relation to, and accords satisfactorily with, the clinical data, the location of the lesion, the pathologic findings, and the common association of this disorder with intramedullary hemangioblastomas.

(Author's Abstr.)

Autonomic Responses in Differential Diagnosis of Organic and Psychogenic Psychoses

Patients with cerebral damage show striking inability to learn conditional responses, which normal subjects learn regularly and promptly.

The patients, who had severe, diffuse cortical impairment, uniformly failed (within 6 to 23 reinforced stimulations) to establish discriminative conditional responses to visual stimuli associated with a slightly painful electrical stimulus. The types of reaction which were recorded include skin resistance, respiratory movements, heart rate, spontaneous and integrated motor movements (tremors and gross movements), and verbal formulation. In none of these forms of behavior did the brain-damaged patients show any formation of conditional responses. This is in marked contrast to responses of the normal subjects, who, after two to seven reinforcements, invariably showed evidence of conditioning. In the normal, the evidence of conditional responses and in verbal formulation, and usually in the psychogalvanic reflex.

In the human subject, changes in heart rate in relation to conditional reflex formation are much less marked than in comparable experiments on dogs. Clarification of this difference awaits more refined study.

(Authors' Abstr.)

Eosinophile Response in Schizophrenic Patients

The changes in level of circulating eosinophiles in both morning and afternoon control periods and in response to epinephrine (0.3 mg. given subcutaneously) and to corticotropin (25 mg. intramuscularly) were determined in 30 men hospitalized for schizophrenia an average of 8.5 years.

The mean changes in eosinophile level observed in the control periods reflect the diurnal cycle of eosinophile level previously described. The mean relative decreases in eosinophiles following administration of epinephrine or corticotropin were less in the afternoon than in the morning. The relative amount of fall apparently depends upon the coincident direction of the spontaneous diurnal cycle as well as upon the health of the adrenccortical system.

The number of schizophrenics showing a fall of 50 per cent. or greater to epinephrine (13/30) or to corticotropin (18/30) in the morning was smaller than would be expected in a group of healthy men.

Of the 30 schizophrenics, 11 had been classified as catatonic and 12 as paranoid. The results in these two groups showed distinct differences.

The catatonics showed relatively normal responses to epinephrine and corticotropin but decreases greater than normal on the control morning. The paranoids produced significantly smaller responses to epinephrine and corticotropin but normal eosinophile changes in the control periods.

The mean absolute level of circulating eosinophiles in the catatonics was similar to that in normals, whereas that of the paranoids was twice as high. It is concluded that these eosinophile studies provide presumptive evidence that the

It is concluded that these eosinophile studies provide presumptive evidence that the adrenocortical system is hypoactive and hyporeactive in the paranoid schizophrenic and perhaps hyperreactive in the catatonic schizophrenic. This may explain the conflicting reports on adrenocortical function in schizophrenia.

(Authors' Abstr.)

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2. The characteristic fast waves caused by intravenous injection of sodium amytal were

2. The characteristic fast waves caused by intravenous injection of solutin anytal were roughly classified into FA of about 15 c/sec. and of relatively large amplitude, and FB of relatively small amplitude, the frequency of which is around 25 c/sec. or over. 3. When a stimulus is applied in a stage of anesthesia, especially during emergence from anesthesia, there appears a EEG pattern which would correspond to a more light stage of anesthesia. At that time the behavior shown by FA and FB seems to be analogous to the behavior of alpha and beta waves at the time of non-anesthesized cause (awaking period and and stage). behavior of alpha and beta waves at the time of non-anesthetized case (awaking period and during natural sleep).

4. In instances where slow waves are present before anesthesia, the slow waves appear in response to stimulation at the time when anesthetized normal subjects show alpha waves or

FA. 5. No fast waves can be elicited by administration of sodium amytal in certain stages of insulin hypoglycemia, immediately after electrically induced convulsions and in deep anesthesia etc., when the brain function is disturbed above a certain degree. As the functional stage of the brain recovers due to administration of glucose or spontaneously with the lapse of time the fast waves which could not be seen before appear very clearly. (Authors' Abstr.)

The EEG Effect of Metrazol and Photic Stimulation in 682 Normal Subjects This paper describes some exploratory experiments, designed to test certain aspects of the well-known hypothesis that "scanning" of the visual field takes place at the frequency of the alpha rhythm. A rectilinear pattern was produced electronically on an 18-inch C-R tube screen, and modulated rhythmically in size at frequencies between 2 and 30 per sec. No "stroboscopic" effects, such as might have been expected on the scanning hypothesis, were observed by the subjects tested.

In later experiments the subject's EEG was simultaneously recorded, and a simple correlator used to indicate the phase-relation between the size-modulation and the dominant component of the occipital and other potentials. With the eyes open no significant correlation was observed even when the occipital EEG was fed back to control the brightness of the modulated pattern.

Although the results cannot be said to disprove the scanning hypothesis, they appear to circumscribe the role attributable to the alpha rhythm in such speculations.

(Authors' Abstr.)

Some Cerebellar Effects on the Electrocorticogram

The present study was made on cats maintained under d-tubocurare or di-hydro-beta erythroidin.

1. Cerebellar stimulation can alter the electrical activity of both sensory and motor areas of the cerebrum.

Changes in cerebral activity following cerebellar stimulation usually indicate more pronounced "activation" patterns; rarely, slow waves and spindles follow such stimulations.
 Localized areas of the cerebellum can influence localized cerebral areas.

4. Possible relationships of the cerebellum to the diffuse activating system is discussed.

(Authors' Abstr.)

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Further Analysis of the Temporal Lobe Syndrome Utilizing Frontotemporal Ablations

1. Ten subjects, 1 adult male Chacma baboon, 1 adult female Guinea baboon and 8 immature rhesus macaques were used. One baboon and 5 macaques received extensive bilateral ablations of the frontotemporal region of the cerebral hemispheres as defined in neuronographic studies. The additional animals received lesions restricted to the orbital, insular, and temporal portions of the region. Locus and extent of lesion was verified histologically and reconstructions were made. Thalamic degeneration was analyzed. 2. A battery of observations and tests was administered pre- and postoperatively. This

2. A pattery or conservations and tests was administered pre- and postoperatively. This battery included such tests for visual processes as determination of the extent of visual fields, examination of visual pursuit and visual acuity, training for performance of visual pattern discrimination and testing of discrimination of food from non-food objects. Acceptance thresholds for quinine solutions of various concentrations were determined. The response to social and noxious stimuli was recorded. Performance of delayed response was tested. Loco-motor activity, food intake and basal temperature determinations were made and clean motor activity, food intake, and basal temperature determinations were made, and sleepactivity cycles observed.

3. In general, reconstruction showed lesions to be bilaterally symmetrical and to include most of the cortex of the posterior orbital gyrus, anterior and limen insulae, as well as temporal pole, periamygdaloid cortex and amygdala. Degeneration in the medial magnocellular portion of the n. medialis dorsalis, midline intralaminar, n. medialis ventralis, and medial pulvinar of the thalamus were related respectively to the lesions in the posterior orbital gyrus, anterior perforate substance and limen insulae, temporal polar formations, and anterolateral temporal cortex

4. Several aspects of the complex syndrome associated with large bilateral temporal lobe lesions were selectively related to interference with the frontotemporal region. Performance in vision, with respect to acuity, extent of field, and ability to make discriminations was unaffected by such lesions. No changes with respect to ability to localize tactile stimuli were observed. Range of movement was unaltered. Performance in the delayed-reaction test was unimpaired. On the other hand, altered behavior did occur in the categories of taste, anergy metabolism and approach to or avoidance of a variety of stimuli including noxious and social ones

5. This specificity of results takes on added significance in light of the fact that ablation of adjacent regions of the frontal and temporal lobes have produced a different constellation of behavioral changes. Ablations in the lateral frontal region are associated with selective interference with delayed-response-type functions (Pribram, Mishkin, Rosvold and Kaplan, 1952). Inferior temporal ablations result in selective impairment of animal's ability to solve simultaneously presented problems of visual discrimination (Chow, 1951; Mishkin, in press;

Mishkin and Pribram, in press). 6. Further subdivision of the syndrome is possible by making more restricted lesions in the frontotemporal region. Specifically, the frontal portion of the region is related to locomotor activity, the insular portion to taste, and the temporal polar-amygdaloid formations to food intake and temperature regulation. 7. The relation between altered appetitive mechanisms related to metabolism and altered

reaction to noxious and social stimuli is pointed out.

(Authors' Abstr.)

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Clinical Hypothalamic Syndromes

In this paper attempt has been made to describe one clinical hypothalamic syndrome which is characterized by a certain type of coma previously alluded to as coma vigil. In this state of coma the individual may keep his eyes open, the eyeballs may wander, and he may give the impression that he is awake and in contact with his environment, though he is not. Generally there are no focal signs and there is no evidence pointing to other regional involve-ment of the brain. The patient may be extremely restless and give evidence of sexual excitement or general psychotic behavior. In addition, there may be and often are one or more signs or symptoms reflecting disturbance of function of the diencephalon. Among these are fever, often high, not the result of infection. There may be hypothermia. If fever is present it is unaccompanied by its usual manifestations. There is want of parallelism between fever and pulse rate, the latter often being low when the former is high; that is, there is dissociation between them. The fever may respond to barbiturates when it does not to antipyretics. There may be excessive, indeed extremely profuse, perspiration in the absence of fever. The blood pressure may drop to normal or below in known hypertensives or fluctuate in either direction in individuals who were known to have normal blood pressure. There may be polyuria, transient glycosuria and hyperglycemia in nondiabetics. Occasionally one observes minor twitchings, at times a major convulsion. The condition may occur on the basis of vascular disease or infections, often an en-

cephalitic process. It may be the result of trauma to the brain, especially of the base. It may be one aspect of other pathologic processes, more particularly tumors, which impinge on the interbrain region. The syndrome may occur in the course of tumor of the third ventricle, craniopharyngioma, or other neoplasms at the base in the middle fossa. It may occur in the cramopharyngiona, or other neoplasms at the base in the middle tossa. It may occur in the course of diabetic or other encephalopathy. The condition is always grave and frequently ends fatally. It may end in recovery, in which case, if the pathologic process was limited to the hypothalamus, there need be no residua. The coma may last days, weeks, or months and end either in death or in recovery.

Several minor diencephalic syndromes have been alluded to, namely diabetes insipidus, behavior disorders, variations in states of consciousness, fever of unknown origin, and petit mal seizures. The latter may be characterized by extreme pallor, drop in blood pressure, and rise in pulse. This type of petit mal may be favorably affected by ephedrine or dexedrine and not by sedative anticonvulsants; sometimes a combination of the two may be effective when neither alone is.

The paper includes a brief summary of the anatomy of the hypothalamus, of its numerous afferent and efferent pathways their connections with other parts of the brain, and of the blood supply. Extensive consideration is given to the neurophysiology of the hypothalamus, including discussion of the metabolic functions of the interbrain structures and their relationship to states of consciousness and to mental and emotional disturbances.

This being a clinical study, evidence of pathology was purposely left out, not because it is unimportant. Attempt has been made to correlate clinical observations with regional anatomy and experimental physiology and pathology. Symptoms were interpreted in the light of what is known so far of the normal function of the hypothalamus and of the manifestations resulting from experimentally induced lesions or from stimulation experiments. Further studies may throw light on the correctness of the observations and the validity of the conclusions.

Suicide in a State Hospital for the Mentally III 1. The incidence of suicide among the total admissions at Eastern State Hospital has been noted and it was found that the rate is many times higher than among the general population. While the rate of suicide among the general population was 11 · 2 per 100,000, the rate at this institution during its entire existence was 38 per 10,000. 2. The highest incidence occurred in the age group of 45-54 years, which corresponds its de discourse here existence are a substitution.

(Author's Abstr.)

with the findings among the general population.

3. The highest rate of suicide occurred within the first three months of hospitalization, while few patients committed suicide after they had been institutionalized five years or longer.

4. Fifty per cent. of the patients who committed suicide were classified as schizophrenia, while only 10 per cent. were diagnosed as manic depressives, depressed, and furthermore depression was found to be present in only 55 per cent. of the patients, while in 45 per cent. there was no evidence of depressive features, either during the psychotic episodes or in the premorbid personality make-up. Suicide in these cases probably occurred as a result of auditory hallucinations and delusions.

auditory hallucinations and delusions. 5. The incidence of suicide was then considered during the preshock era and during the shock era. The rate during the preshock era was 42 suicides per 10,000 admissions, while during the shock era it was 32 per 10,000 admissions. However, it was felt that rather than the application of shock treatment, this slight decrease in the suicide rate during the shock era is due to other factors, the most important of which are: (1) the shifting of the average age of the total population to the older age group (during the preshock era 15 per cent. of the admissions were 65 years of age and older, while this increased to 27 per cent. during the shock era); (2) 50 per cent. of the patients were diagnosed as schizophrenics while only 10 per cent. would fall within the manic depressive group; (3) the long duration of mental illness in most of the patients, and finally (4) the fact that depression was at work in only a little more than half of the patients. (Authors' Abstr.)

Improvement in Psychosis Following Conditioned-Reflex Treatment for Alcoholism

1. Five hundred and ninety-one patients were treated by the conditioned reflex treatment for alcoholism.

2. Twenty-seven patients suffered from mental disorders.

3. Of the 27 patients, 21 suffered from mental disorders due to alcohol or associated deficiency states. These patients were divided as follows: 6 cases of delirium tremens, 6 cases of acute alcoholic hallucinosis, 1 case of pathological intoxication, 2 cases of chronic mental deterioration in which there were also alcoholic convulsions, 6 cases of prodromal symptoms of delirium tremens, but in which delirium tremens did not develop.

4. Six patients suffered from mental disorders not due to alcohol. Three of these were cases of involutional melancholia and 3 of schizophrenia, paranoid type.

5. Marked improvement from aversion treatment was noted in all patients except one. This was a case of chronic mental deterioration. In the 3 cases of involutional melancholia and the 3 cases of schizophrenia, paranoid type, unexpected remissions occurred which could not be accounted for by the removal of alcohol alone.

6. Aversion treatments for alcoholism apparently have an unexplained beneficial effect on mental abnormality. It is surmised that this may be due to improvement in cerebral circulation and to physiologic stimulation of the diencephalon and adjacent cerebral centers.

(Authors' Abstr.)

The Use of Mebaral in the Treatment of Chronic Alcoholism

Mebaral (tri-methyl derivative of phenobarbital) has been given to 41 chronic alcoholics for the purpose of relieving their tension and irritability and thereby reduce their inclination to drink. In the alcoholic who is tense, restless, insomnic, and constantly agitated, this medication has its greatest benefit. The drug was selected because of the minimal amount of drowsiness or euphoria produced and the lessened likelihood of habituation. All of the patients treated were indigent. Ninety-three per cent. had failed on one or more other forms of treatment, and all had been unable to work steadily for from three to nine years because of their excessive alcoholism.

Difficulty was experienced in maintaining these patients on the medication following their recovery from a bout. In no instance in this series did a patient resume his alcoholism while taking the medication in the prescribed manner. Fifteen have continued to abstain from two weeks to five months. Sixteen were maintained for two to four weeks as out-patients without taking any alcohol, while waiting to begin treatment with TETD (Antabuse). Eleven were unimproved. Eighteen patients on B complex vitamin therapy showed 13 per cent. fewer improved than in the group who also received Mebaral. Those who could be maintained on the drug were able to continue to abstain from the use of alcohol. (Authors' Abstr.)

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Alzheimer's Disease: A Clinico-pathologic Analysis of Twenty-three Cases with a Theory on Pathogenesis

Histochemical and quantitative histological studies of twenty-three cases of Alzheimer's disease suggests two possibilities with regard to pathogenesis of the syndrome and to histo-genesis of the lesions. The first possibility and the one that seems to be more likely, is, that it may be due to a disturbance in the cerebral metabolism of iron, resulting in secondary devitalization of the microglia. The second possibility is that there is a primary devitalization of the microglia which leads to the gradual accumulation of metabolic wastes in the nerve and macroglial cells producing their ultimate degeneration.

In either case, the histogenesis of Alzheimer neurofibrillary degeneration and argentophilic plaque formation is believed to be due to microglial insufficiency, whether the latter phenomenon is primary or secondary. The histogenetic theory of microglial insufficiency or inhibition accounts for the origin of plaques from nerve cells as well as from the macroglial and microglial cells. It affords a rational explanation for the apparent dissociation between plaques and Alzheimer cell changes. Depending upon the relative functional state of the microglia, the quantitative relationships between the two related phenomena will vary accordingly from case to case and even in different parts of the same brain. From a study of an Alzheimer diseased brain six days after cerebral biopsy had been

performed, it was concluded that the microglia in the tissue adjoining the biopsy lesion tion. This suggests that the microglial defect might be one of inhibition rather than of devitalization.

The effects of anti-reticular cytotoxic serum in three cases of Alzheimer's disease were inconclusive but they indicated that the microglia cells, as part of the reticulo-endothelial system, may have been responsive to the stimulation of A.C.S. Further studies along these lines, are indicated.

Significant clinical, pathological and histochemical differences between Alzheimer's disease and senile dementia justify the conclusion that Alzheimer's disease is a metabolic syndrome which may occur independent of senile changes. There is no conclusive evidence that Alzheimer's disease is a premature form of senescence even though it occurs predominantly during the so-called pre-senium. Expert investigation along biochemical lines is indicated by the foregoing findings and

probably until this is undertaken, the solution of the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease will (Author's Abstr.) remain a mystery.

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The Brain-stem Lesions in Parkinsonism

The pigmented cells of the brain-stem, especially those in the substantia nigra and locus coeruleus, have been examined in 19 cases of idiopathic paralysis agitans, 10 cases of Parkinsonism with a history of an attack of encephalitis between the years 1918 and 1924, and five cases of Parkinsonism of uncertain aetiology. Five types of changes were found in these cells (1) Saccular distension by lipochrome granules along with disappearance of Nissl granules, melanin, and nucleus; (2) vacuolation, which was considered unimportant; (3) binucleated nerve cells, which were very rare; (4) Lewy's spherical concentric hyaline inclusions; (5) neurofibrillary tangles, somewhat similar to those seen in Alzheimer's disease, but unaccompanied by senile plaques.

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The first three types were seen in post-encephalitic cases and in occasional cases in the control group. Lewy's hyaline inclusions were found in all of our cases of typical idiopathic paralysis agitans, and in one complicated case which may have been post-encephalitic. Neuro-fibrillary tangles were found in nine post-encephalitic cases, in one case associated with amyotrophy, which was clinically idiopathic. In one case of Parkinsonism associated with olivo-ponto-cerebellar degeneration, and in 22 cases in the age group 50 to 90 years, with no signs of Parkinsonism, neither of the last two types of cell change could be found in the pigmented cells of the brain-stem. The significance of these findings is discussed in relation to the literature on the subject. (Authors' Abstr.)

Substances which Support Respiration and Metabolic Response to Electrical Impulses in Human Cerebral Tissues

Human cerebral tissues removed during operations for prefrontal and temporal lobectomy afforded about 40 specimens for determining the initial respiratory rate in a phosphate-buffered saline with glucose as substrate. The mean rate so obtained was of 55 μ moles O₂/g. fresh tissue/hr. The variation in respiratory rate was relatively large (S.D. 10.6) but rates were not systematically different in tissue from frontal and temporal areas. The rates changed little if at all during the first two hours' metabolism.

Applied electrical impulses increased respiration to up to $110 \,\mu$ moles O₂/g. hr., which is close to the probable respiratory rate of human cerebral cortex in situ.

Aerobic accumulation of lactic acid with glucose as substrate proceeded concomitantly with normal respiration and at about 25 μ mole/g. fresh wt./hr. This also could be doubled by applied electrical impulses.

The respiratory rate of human cerebral tissue in a phosphate saline without substrate was lower initially than when glucose was present and fell further after 30 minutes' metabolism. Electrical impulses effective with glucose were then without action. Fumarate as the only substrate was without effect on the lower rate, on the fall in rate, and on the rate with applied impulses.

Succinate as the only substrate maintained respiration without permitting response to impulses. Citrate maintained less stable rates which were affected little by impulses. Lactate and pyruvate maintained well the respiratory rate of the tissues and permitted clear responses to applied impulses. Reaction to these substrates is similar in human tissues and in those from experimental animals.

With glutamic acid as substrate, human tissues behaved differently from those from other animals examined. Respiratory rate was maintained and responded to applied impulses.

Comparative observations were made on normal and treated guinea-pig tissues and on two specimens from rhesus monkey. (Author's Abstr.)

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Functional Characteristics of Afferent Fibers from Tooth Pulp of Cat. Brookhart, J. M., et al. 634 Behavioral Changes Following Rhinencephalic Injury in Cat. Schreiner, L., and Kling, A. 643

Exteroceptive and Proprioceptive Ascending Impulses in Pyramidal Tract of Cat

1. By means of the evoked potential method the existence of the anatomically demonstrated ascending fibers in the pyramid of the cat (4) has been confirmed.

2. The electrical activity set up in the pyramidal tract fibers by an afferent volley from various cutaneous and muscular nerves consists of several positive deflections followed by a low-voltage negative wave. The responses to stimulation of cutaneous nerves are considerably larger than those evoked from muscular nerves and show more distinct deflections, suggesting the presence of groups of fibers of different conduction velocities.

3. There are striking similarities between the ascending and descending pyramidal fiber systems. Thus, the majority of ascending fibers, like the descending ones, appears to be crossed; further, the pyramidal response is greater when stimulating nerves of the forelimbs than of the hindlimbs and greater when induced from nerves supplying the distal parts of the limbs than from nerves innervating the proximal parts; the termination of the ascending fibers in the cerebral cortex finally is much the same as the origin of the descending pyramidal fibers.

4. It is estimated that 70-80 per cent. of the ascending exteroceptive impulses in the pyramid travel by direct spinocortical fibers, and the remaining 20-30 per cent. via nuclei of the dorsal funculi. The proprioceptive impulses to the pyramid seem to be about equally distributed among the two spinal paths.

5. The possible functional significance of the ascending pyramidal tract fibers is dis-cussed. The suggestion is ventured that they are in some way of importance for the coordina-tion of differentiated, skilled movements and further that they may represent the still unknown afferent path in the plantar and abdominal reflexes and in the placing and hopping reactions. (Authors' Abstr.)

Effects of Lesions on Subcortically Evoked Movement in Cat

The authors have produced phasic movement of the contralateral forelimb in anesthetized cats by stimulation of the caudate nucleus, hypothalamus and anterior thalamus. When movement was induced by stimulating the caudate nucleus, it could be abolished by lesions at the base of the brain stem in the mid-line, at the junction of diencephalon and midbrain. These lesions did not seriously affect cortically induced movement. On the other hand, lesions of the medial portion of the cerebral peduncles abolished movement from cortex and subcortex alike.

The results suggest a pathway for movement, distinctive from the cortico-spinal tracts, that originates in or passes through the caudate nucleus. It then proceeds caudad in or close to the internal capsule, assuming a medial position through the diencephalon before swinging laterally in the midbrain to enter the ipsilateral basis pedunculi and continue caudad in the pyramids. (Authors' Abstr.)

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Results of Transorbital Lobotomy in 400 State Hospital Patients

Four hundred cases of transorbital lobotomy are reported; there was marked improvement in approximately one-half of the cases and some improvement in another 25 per cent. of chronically disturbed patients.

The results according to diagnosis are indicated.

It is urged that this type of operation be considered for all chronically disturbed patients. The economic advantages in the improvement of such a group are stressed.

(Authors' Abstr.)

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Effect of Themisone and Phenurone on Electrically-induced Seizures in the Salamander

The behavior of salamanders during electrically-induced seizures in the Summark an active and an inactive phase. Both Themisone and Phenurone inhibit the violent active phase of a seizure and diminish the duration of the stupor or inactive phase typically found in untreated salamanders. Phenurone acts more slowly but its effect lasts longer than that of Themisone. Themisone, unlike Phenurone, produces a temporary unsteadiness in gait and some sluggishness. (Authors' Abstr.)

Experimental Intraventricular and Intracerebral Injection of Polymyxin B in the Cat
1. Twelve cats, including three controls, were used in this experiment.
2. In four cats, 2,500 or 5,000 units of polymyxin B in 0.05 cc. of normal saline solution were injected into the left lateral ventricle under Nembutal anesthesia. None of these cats showed any toxic neurologic reactions. Sections of the brains of these animals revealed no significant changes.

3. Five cats were given an intracerebral injection of polymyxin B, 2,500 or 5,000 units, into the left cerebral hemisphere. One cat was injected under sodium Nembutal and the other four without anesthesia. Only one animal developed a reaction; sections of the brain showed that the injection was in the left thalamus, internal capsule, and the region of the hypothalamus.

4. Pathologic examination revealed acute inflammatory changes in the leptomeninges and minimal hemorrhage in the early stage of the experiment, and softening and gliosis in the area of the intracerebral instillation in the later stage. (Author's Abstr.)

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Acquired Epilepsy: A Study of 535 Cases

Records of 1,648 patients with a diagnosis of epilepsy were reviewed. Of these, 535, or Records of 1,648 patients with a diagnosis of epilepsy were reviewed. Of these, 535, or 32.4 per cent. gave evidence of organic lesion of the brain acquired prior to the person's first seizure. In 52 per cent, the evidence for the pathologic change was believed conclusive, in 48 per cent, only probable. Of the 535 patients, 69 per cent, were private and 31 per cent, clinic patients, the latter being adolescent or younger. Ninety per cent, of patients had the first seizure before the age of 20; 24 per cent, had a positive family history of epilepsy. Evidence for a cerebral lesion was furnished in largest

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proportion, 88 per cent., by the patient's past history, with the electroencephalogram, description of seizures, neurologic examination, and pneumoencephalogram following in order of importance.

Causes of pathologic change were assigned as follows: prenatal 13.3 per cent.; natal conditions 30.1 per cent.; postnatal trauma 20.7 per cent.; infections 17.2 per cent.; other conditions 6.4 per cent.; and unassigned 12.3 per cent.

Data studied with respect to the patient's age at the first seizure showed a progressive decline of paranatal mishaps and progressive increase of postnatal traumatic conditions with increasing age. Nearly one-half of the cases, 46 per cent., had the initial seizure within 12 months after the first etiologic event. In 12 per cent. epilepsy did not arise until ten or more years later. The time interval separating etiology and epilepsy was shorter for postnatal trauma and infections than for paranatal conditions.

The distribution of causes differs radically from a previous series of older patients. A comparison and coalescence of data from various sources with delineation of genetic (Authors' Abstr.) and acquired factors is desired.

Clinical Evaluation of Pagitane Hydrochloride in Parkinsonism

Irrespective of all the pitfalls of an analysis such as this on a relatively small number of patients, the authors' experience with this compound has allowed them to formulate the following conclusions which are in general agreement with published reports now appearing on the use of Pagitane hydrochloride.

1. This compound is an effective drug in reducing the rigidity and tremor encountered in

A tendency is noted for some of the patients to report greater improvement soon after beginning therapy. This characteristic of Parkinsonism and makes evaluation of the new remedy difficult.

4. As had been noted previously by others, those patients respond poorly to medical management who have Parkinsonism appearing late in life, in whom tremor is the predominant symptom, and who have been diagnosed as having central nervous system changes attributable to arteriosclerosis. In these patients, mental confusion is frequently produced and the drug, if used at all, must be given with great caution.

5. Best results were obtained in Parkinsonism of idiopathic or postencephalitic etiology. (Authors' Abstr.)

Stimulation of the Amygdaloid Nuclear Complex in Unanesthetized Cats

1. Electrical stimulation of the amygdaloid nuclear complex in unanesthetized cats has elicited complex somatomotor and visceromotor effects: contraversive movements, tonic and clonic movements of the extremities, licking, sniffing, chewing, and inhibition of respiratory and other spontaneous somatomotor activities; pupillo-dilation, salivation, micturition, defecation, and pilo-erection. These responses were obtained mainly from the phylogenetically old anteromedial division of the amygdaloid nuclei which receives fibers from the olfactory bulb and which projects to the septal, preoptic, and hypothalamic areas.

2. Stimulation of the phylogenetically younger basolateral division, which appears to have no direct connections with fibers from the olfactory bulb and whose efferent projections are unknown, produced behavior changes very similar to those obtained by stimulating the hippocampus and the medial prefrontal, limbic, retrosplenical, and hippocampal gyral cortices, indicating functional relationships between all these structures. This response consisted of searching movements to the contralateral side associated with bewilderment and anxiety, and sometimes with fear, anger, and fury. 3. The results are discussed in relation to temporal lobe seizures. It is believed that the

amygdala plays an important role in certain types of epileptic automatisms.

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*Observations on 36 Patients with General Paresis Treated with Penicillin-Malaria
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Observations on 36 Patients with General Paresis Treated with Penicillin-Malaria and Penicillin Alone 1. Of 36 patients with general paresis, 18 were treated with penicillin-malaria and 18 with

penicillin alone.

penicillin alone.
2. Choice and methods of treatment, as well as complications, were described.
3. The prognosis in the series presented was found to depend mainly on (a) duration of symptoms, (b) degree of intellectual impairment, (c) type of psychosis, (d) combination with tabes, (e) age. These findings confirm often-reported observations by others.
4. Satisfactory clinical results (much improved and improved) were achieved in 61 · 1 per cent. (11 patients) treated with penicillin-malaria and 27 · 7 per cent. (5 patients) treated with penicillin alone. Satisfactory serologic results (available for 33 patients only) were obtained in 94 · 1 per cent. (16 of 17 patients) in the combined group and in 81 · 2 per cent. (13 of 16 patients) in the penicillin-alone group.
5. The clinical failure rate was 22 · 2 per cent. (4 patients) for the patients treated with penicillin-malaria and 38 · 8 per cent. (1 of 17 patients) for the patients treated with penicillin-malaria and 38 · 8 per cent. (1 of 17 patients) and 18 · 7 per cent. (3 of 16 patients) respectively.

patients) respectively.

6. Some superiority of the combined treatment remains even after allowance has been made for factors rendering the composition of the group treated with penicillin-malaria more

.

favorable. Penicillin alone, however, outranks the combined treatment with regard to safety, lack of complications, and ease of administration. (Author's Abstr.)

Involutional Melancholia

1. The pre-psychotic personality of patients developing agitated depressions is described as the anal-compulsive character.

2. The development and characteristics of the anal character are outlined.

3. The agitated depressions are considered as the decompensation of an anal character. 4. The precipitating factors are considered to be traumata which prevent the maintenance

of characteristically rigid ego defenses. 5. A differential comparison is made of the psychodynamics of the reactive and agitated

depressions.

6. The psychopathology of the symptoms is related to the prepsychotic personality and its decompensation. (Authors' Abstr.)

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Investige	ations on the Disulfiram-Alcohol Reaction			

Following the administration of disulfiram (tetraethylthiuram disulfide) and alcohol in various doses to 39 subjects, a reaction with a typical course was found in conformity with the reports of other investigators. In spite of the typical course, great individual dissimilarity was observed.

The symptoms reflect a radical process influencing several organs and systems of organs (the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the gastrointestinal canal). The cause is presumably the acetaldehyde formed in the organism but the mechanism is

largely unknown.

Tests of cutaneous reaction showed no direct hypersensitivity to alcohol.

The degree of the reaction released is to some extent dependent on the quantity of disulfiram administered. From a therapeutic view-point the administration of large doses has no advantages. (Author's Abstr.)

Hepatic Abnormalities in Alcoholics with Delirium Tremens

1. Aspiration biopsy of the liver in 66 patients with delirium tremens revealed a normal liver structure in 19 (29 per cent.), focal inflammation in 4 (6 per cent.), fatty infiltration in 20 (31 per cent.) and portal cirrhosis in 23 (35 per cent.).

2. Clinical and biochemical liver function studies did not provide a clue to the encountered histology. The dissociation between biochemical tests and histology suggested that the latter was not responsible for the observed liver function changes.

3. Hepatic abnormalities in delirium tremens appear to be due to dietary inadequacies. A diet deficient in lipotropic substances was associated with fatty infiltration and eventually led to fibrosis and portal cirrhosis. The degree of alcoholism and severity of cerebral symptoms could not be correlated with hepatic abnormalities.

4. Rehabilitation of the alcoholic patient is desirable to prevent progressive liver injury. The fatty liver is curable, and prognosis in patients with hepatic fibrosis and portal cirrhosis is improved with treatment. (Authors' Abstr.)

Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. The Role of Chemical Tests in Appealed Cases

1. The role of chemical test evidence has been evaluated as the result of a study of pleadings, verdicts and dismissals in cases prosecuted for driving under the influence of alcohol.

In the cases examined, the concentrations of alcohol in the blood ranged from 0.14 to 0.40 per cent., indicating the consumption of more than ½ pint of whisky or the equivalent amount of other alcoholic beverages.
 The use of the Alcometer breath test to determine the concentration of alcohol in the

3. The use of the Alcometer breath test to determine the concentration of alcohol in the blood resulted in a marked increase in pleas of guilty, from 23 to 61 per cent. This increase indicates an acceptance of the validity of the test by defendants, since the test result actually corresponds to what they know they had consumed.

4. There was a significant increase in convictions by both court and juries, from 58 to 83 per cent. This increase results from the confidence reposed by the court and juries in the chemical test and from the value of this test in corroborating other evidence. 5. The cases dismissed by the prosecutor for lack of sufficient evidence decreased from

5. The cases dismissed by the prosecutor for lack of sufficient evidence decreased from 22 per cent. to none when chemical test evidence was introduced. In addition to the confidence of the prosecutor in the reliability and corroborative value of the chemical test, this decrease results from the more effective screening by the police of cases not warranting prosecution.

6. The over-all rate of convictions rose from 55 to 93 per cent. when chemical test evidence was presented.

7. This evaluation of the disposition of 87 cases brought before the New Haven County Court of Common Pleas reveals the acceptance of the chemical test by all segments of the community as an effective means of convicting the guilty and protecting the innocent.

(Authors' Abstr.)

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Influence of Various Afferent Nerve Stimuli on the Composition of the Secretion of the Adrenal Medulla in the Cat. Euler, U. S. v., and Folkow, B. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 219, 242 (1953).] Compression of the carotid of cats in chloralose anesthesia produced in the venous blood

of the adrenal 0.2γ noradrenaline (I)/per kg. and min. which amounted to 56 to 90 per cent. (average 72) of the sum of (I) and adrenaline (II). After stimulation of the afferent ischiadicus or plexus brachialis the (I) production was 0.16γ which amounted to 43 per cent. of the total. After electric stimulation of the splanchnic nerve the percentage of (I) was 73, in asphyxia 78. Conclusion: (I) and (II) are produced by different cell groups which are responding to specific stimuli. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

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Review of experiments on feeding mice with radioactive mescaline and determination of the resultant distribution of it in the body. B. J. C. VAN DER H. (Chem. Abstr.)

Strychnine as a Depressant of Primary Inhibition. Bradley, K., and Eccles, J. C. [Nature, 171, 1061 (1953).]

It is demonstrated by experiments on low spinal cats under light nembutal anesthesia that the threshold for stimulation in the quadriceps nerve of group Ia components, which have excitatory action on homonymous motor neurons and inhibitory action on antagonistic motor neurons, is lower than that for group Ib components which have opposite effects. Selection of the proper stimulus permits the application of a nearly pure Ia afferent volley to the motor neurons of the antagonistic biceps-semitendinosus nerve, and the amount of inhibition produced is measured by the height of the reflex spike resulting from a single maximum afferent volley applied at various times following the preliminary Ia inhibitory volley. A subconvulsive lose, 0.09 mg, per kg., of strychnine diminishes and shortens the inhibition, and a further dose 0.08 mg per kg., virtually abolishes the inhibition. Strychnine seems to have a specific depressant action on synaptic inhibition for this action is observed with doses which have no significant effect on synaptic excitation in a monosynaptic reflex. The action of strychnine in diminishing inhibition is discussed with relation to a postulated inhibitory transmitter sub-stance (Brock *et al.*, *J. Physiol.*, 117, 431 (1952)) and as an explanation of its convulsive activity. J. A. BAIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Migraine as a Psychosomatic Disease. Campbell, Dorothy A. [Trans. Ophthalmol. Soc. United Kingdom, 71, 361 (1951).]

Pathological and biochemical aspects are reviewed. There appears to be a disordered functioning of the adrenal and pituitary glands, leading to retention of NaCl and water. Sufficient amounts of urea given over a long period will lessen the frequency and severity of W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) attacks.

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A Tetanic Syndrome without Changes in Chemical Composition of the Blood in a Case of Juvenile Dementia Paralytica (Lissauer). Fahr's Idiopathic Perivascular Calcification. van Bogaert, L. [Monatsschr. Psychiat. Neurol., 118, 30 (1949).]

Mainly pathological with a discussion of the physical and chemical origin of perivascular calcifications in the brain. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Levels of Blood Oxygenation of Blood in Schizophrenic Patients. Tsikhanshkaya, Z. S. [Nevro-pathol. i Psikhiat., 17, No. 6, 33 (1948).]

Toluidine blue (I) acts as an oxidation-reduction indicator in staining hemoglobin (II) giving green-yellow at +100 mv., blue at -10 mv., to pinkish-violet at -70 mv., depending upon the degree of oxidation of (II). Of 60 normal subjects, the blood of 48 stained green (+50 mv.), that of the other 12 was in the positive range, blue-green to yellow-green. Over 400 determinations were made on the blood of 30 schizophrenic patients. The blood usually stained blue-green (-25 mv.). In catatonia, the potentials were very low, showing low oxygenation of (II). In 4 of 5 cases of chorea, oxidation levels were very high. The effects of intravenous honey injections on the hematology of schizophrenics are described. In 10 of 17 cases, the oxidation potentials of (II) were restored (temporarily?) to normal values, with clinical improvement. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

The Clinical Significance of Electrophoretic Studies of Cerebrospinal Fluid and Serum in Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. Olderhausen, H. F. v., et al. [Deut. Z. Nervenheilk., 170, 254 (1953).]

In the early stages of the disease α_1^{-} α_2^{-} and β_{-} globulins were increased and albumin was decreased in serum, as measured by paper electrophoresis. In cerebrospinal fluid an increase in albumin and y-globulin and a decrease in other fractions appeared after 2-4 weeks. WARREN M. SPERRY (Chem. Abstr.)

Metabolic Disturbances and the Central Nervous System. Peters, Gerd. [Deut. Z. Nervenheilk., 169, 446 (1953).] WARREN M. SPERRY (Chem. Abstr.)

Biochemical Studies on the Action of Nerves. VI. Cholinesterase in the Cerebrospinal Fluid. Okinaka, Shigeo, et al. [Igaku to Seibutsugaku (Med. and Biol.), 25, 10 (1952)

Results are given of determinations of cholinesterase (1) of some 140 cerebrospinal fluids from normal and diseased humans. The enzyme activity was given as cu.mm. CO₂ evolved in 30 minutes at 37.5° per ml. cerebrospinal fluid. (I) Values varied from 4.8 (in Heine-Medin disease) to 182.0 (in spinal tumor) and were as follows: normal humans (10 cases), 16.9 ± 1.41 ; tuberculous meningitis (16 cases), 38.8 ± 12.4 ; poliomyelitis anterior (18 cases), of which 4 showed normal values and 14 decreased activities (11.1 ± 4.17); brain tumors (12 cases), of which 4 showed decreased activities and the others more or less increased activities (the highest value, 151 0, was observed in Hippel-Lindau disease). The significance of these results M. NAKAMURA (Chem. Abstr.) in clinical diagnosis was discussed.

Phosphatase and Nucleic Acids in Centers of Cerebral Hemorrhage. Gherarducci, D. [Sistema nervoso, 4, 518 (1952).]

In 6 rabbits injected with parattin oil a constant increase of phosphatules, a determined in the centers of ribonucleic acid, and no change of the thymonucleic acid were observed in the centers of C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.) In 6 rabbits injected with paraffin oil a constant increase of phosphatase, a decrease of the

17-Ketosteroid Changes in Cerebral Apoplexy. Gherarducci, D. [Sistema nervoso, 4, 520 (1952).] The 24-hour urinary 17-ketosteroid excretion was normal or greater than normal (maximum 25 mg.) in 19 patients. C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Acetylcholine in the Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) of Neuropsychic Patients. Poloni, A., and Maffezzoni, G. [Cervello, 28, 15 (1952).]

The following observations were made: (1) The absence of acetylcholine (1) in the CSF of patients with progressive paralysis had no connection with luetic antibodies, albumin, globulins, and cell elements; (2) (1) was higher in epileptic patients before the convulsion and decreased thereafter; (3) the CSF of schizophrenic patients showed no (1); (4) in paraphrenic patients the presence of (1) was observed; (5) the brain fluid showed more (1) than the spinal fluid in nonschizophrenic patients; (6) acetylcholine administration to schizophrenic and nonschizophrenic patients caused an increase of (1); (7) electroshock (e.s.) raised (1) in non-schizophrenic patients, and lowered it in the schizophrenic ones; (8) paraphrenic patients showed a decrease of (1) after electroshock; (9) (1) increased in schizophrenic patients during insulin therapy; (10) in recovered schizophrenic patients (1) appeared; (11) in recovered schizophrenic patients e.s. lowered (1), and this response was not influenced by a previous G. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.) treatment with pregnenolone.

Lactic Acid of Blood and Pyruvic Acid of Blood in Schizophrenia. Torre, L. Dalla, et al. [Lavoro neuropsichiat., 10, 3 (1952).] In 20 patients the average lactic and pyruvic acid contents of blood were 16.95 and

1.54 mg. per cent. respectively. C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Fluorescence Quantitative Spectrophotometry of Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) in Schizophrenia. Salvi, P., and Zara, E. [Acta Neurol., 7, 49 (1952).] The fluorescence spectrum (ultraviolet excitation) of the CSF of schizophrenic patients

was nearly normal but less intense, especially in the violet band where the intensity was nearly 70 per cent. that of normal CSF. This is interpreted as a low concentration of pterin compounds. C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

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The Roles of Emotional Stress and Diet in the Etiology of Diabetes Mellitus. Simon, Norman M., and Mirsky, Stanley. [Quart. Bull. Northwestern Univ. Med. School, 27, 126 (1953).] Anxiety produced by electric shock, in combination with a high-fat diet, significantly increased the blood glucose of rats without producing clinical diabetes. The role of emotional stress in the etiology of diabetes mellitus in man is probably that of a triggering mechanism that may set off the chain of pathological reactions in individuals predisposed by dietary or other factors. MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Fever and Brain Metabolism. Tasaka, Sadataka and Ishihara, Makoto. [Igaku to Seibutsugaku (Med. and Biol.), 26, 266 (1953).]

During fever, the production of pyruvic and lactic acids were increased in the brain tissue. M. NAKAMURA (Chem. Abstr.)

The Effects of Carbon Dioxide Inhalation upon the Cerebral Blood Flow and Cerebral Oxygen Consumption in Vascular Disease. Novack, Paul, et al. [J. Clin. Invest., 32, 696 (1953).]

The effects of inhalation of 5 per cent. CO_2 upon the cerebral circulation of individuals with varying degrees of vascular disease were studied. The normal response to an elevation of arterial pCO_2 is a slight increase in the mean arterial blood pressure and a drop in cerebrovascular resistance with a consequent increase in cerebral blood flow. A group of normotensive arteriosclerotic individuals failed to show significant decrease of the cerebrovascular resistance, although the cerebral blood flow increased slightly. A small group of uncomplicated essential hypertension cases responded normally to CO_2 but the residual cerebrovascular resistance after CO_2 vasodilation was still markedly above normal. The response to CO_2 inhalation seems to provide a convenient means for dissociating and establishing the components of an increased cerebrovascular resistance attributable to functional vasoconstriction and arteriosclerotic narrowing of the lumen of the vessels.

Cerebral Circulation and Metabolism in Pulmonary Emphysema and Fibrosis with Observations on the Effects of Mild Exercise. Scheinberg, P., et al. [J. Clin. Invest., 32, 720 (1953).]

Cerebral blood flow, O consumption, and vascular resistance were measured in 22 patients with chronic pulmonary disease of moderate functional severity, and compared with normals of the same age. The effect of mild exercise was studied in 12 of the patients. There was no significant difference in cerebral blood flow measured by the intermittent sampling technique as compared to continuous sampling. Mean values for cerebral blood flow, cerebral arteriovenous O difference, cerebral O consumption, and cerebral vascular resistance did not differ in patients and normals. The correlation between cerebral blood flow and arterial pO_2 was good, whereas no correlation was found between cerebral blood flow and arterial pO_2 or percentage arterial O saturation. The effect of exercise was variable. A reduction in arterial pH during exercise did not influence cerebral blood flow. JOHN T. MYERS (Chem. Abstr.)

Lipide dystrophic Changes in the Central Nervous System in Dogs. Hagen, L. O. [Acta Pathol. Microbiol. Scand., 33, 22 (1953).]

The histological and clinical picture is described in 2 dogs with lipide dystrophy of the central nervous system. The changes consisted of deposition of complex lipides in the neuron cells in the brain and retina, producing among other things, blindness. The lipides, according to their solubility and biochemical reactions, seemed to be largely phosphatides. There was a pronounced gliosis in the cerebellum, loss of cells in the granular cells, and loss of Purkinje cells. The changes closely resemble those of amaurotic familial idiocy in man.

JOHN T. MYERS (Chem. Abstr.)

Apparent Significance of Melanin in the Substantia Nigra. Friede, Reinhard. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs Arch. exptl. Pathol. u. Pharmakol., 218, 286 (1953).] The ganglion cells of the substantia nigra are able to form melanin from adrenaline. The

The ganglion cells of the substantia nigra are able to form melanin from adrenaline. The pigment disappears in parkinsonism. Parkinsonism responds to sympathomimetic and parasympathicolytic drugs. Melanin is related to a process of metabolism of tyrosine derivatives. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Microchemical Studies of the Nervous System. X. Cerebrosides of Nerve during its Degeneration. May, Raoul Michel and Thillard, Marie Jeanne. [Bull. soc. chim. biol., 35, 307 (1953).] The cerebrosides of the sciatic nerve (dog) increased 60 per cent. or more during the first down of the science dog booth balk the proceeding when nerve in the nerve 0 down

3 days after section, then decreased to about half the presection value in the next 9 days. There was little change thereafter. L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

Changes of Lipide Phosphorus in Blood Induced by Electrical Stimulation of the Hypothalamus of Rabbits. Inoue, Kazumasa. [Osaka Daigaku Igaku Zasshi, 5, 457 (1953).] The concentration of lipide P in blood (1) was 2.76 to 13.74 mg. per cent. in 35 normal

The concentration of lipide P in blood (1) was 2.76 to 13.74 mg. per cent. in 35 normal fasted rabbits. After the stimulation of the ventromedial hypothalamic nucleus, the concentration of (1) decreased in 8 cases, increased in 5 cases and remained unchanged in 2 cases out of all 15 animals. These changes were observed within 1 hour after the stimulation. By the stimulation of the lateral hypothalamic nucleus, the concentration of (1) increased in 11 cases

out of 15, remained unchanged in 3, and decreased in one case. These increases were produced within 2 hours after the stimulation and the maximum increment was 1.38 to 4.08 mg. ITIRO TYUMA (Chem. Abstr.) per cent.

Brain Metabolism during Acclimatization to High Altitude. Albaum, Harry G., and Chinn, Herman L. [Am. J. Physiol., 174, 141 (1953).]

Acclimatization of rats to lowered barometric pressure equivalent to 11,000, 18,000, and 22,000 ft. did not alter significantly the levels of the brain constituents determined. In rats breathing N for 3 minutes, the brain adenosine triphosphate (ATP), adenosine diphosphate, phosphocreatine, organic P, and glycogen decreased while the inorganic P, lactic acid, and adenylic acid increased. No change in the activity of brain cytochrome oxidase was apparent after acclimatization. The rate of P³² incorporation into brain ATP was unaltered after acclimatization. E. D. WALTER (Chem. Abstr.)

Mitochondrial Preparation from Mammalian Brain. Brody, T. M., and Bain, J. A. [J. Biol. Chem., 195, 685 (1952).] Differential centrifugation in 0.25 M sucrose of homogenetes of rat or rabbit brain

yields a fraction (1) having histological, chemical and metabolic properties similar to those of liver mitochondria. (1) Oxidizes at high rates the majority of the Krebs citric acid cycle inter-International data (1) obtained at high facts the high for the factor action action of the international data (1) obtained at the addition of an adenine nucleotide (either adenosine triphosphate, adenosine diphosphate, or adenylic acid) and of yeast hexokinase associated phosphate uptake, with P:O ratios of 2.5 to 3.0, is demonstrated. (1) Does not oxidize at appreciable rates alanine, aspartate, or octanoate, nor does it exhibit any glycolytic activity. J. P. DANEHY (Chem. Abstr.)

Attempt at a Theory of Cellular Excitability. Nervous Flux; Automatisms. 1. Gibert, Rene. [J. chim. phys., 49, 448 (1952).] A system of 4 schematic chemical equations is set up in such a way that their kinetic behavior would show precise analogy to certain aspects of the behavior of excitable matter. In particular, it obeys the "all-or-nothing" law necessary to account for the discharge of impulses by nerve cells. Only broad specifications can be given for the nature of the chemical entities postulated. The relations among reaction velocities and among concentrations necessary to cause the system to return to its initial state, and thus to account for the phenomena associated with automatisms, are discussed. T. H. DUNKELBERGER (Chem. Abstr.) associated with automatisms, are discussed.

A Comparative Study of the Lipide Composition of the Brain in Various Vertebrate Classes. Bieth, R., and Mandel, P. [Experientia, 9, 185 (1953).]

Analysis of total lipides, phosphatidic fatty acids, and sphingomyelin of the brains of carp, turtle, duck, domestic fowl, rat, guinea pig, cat, dog, and man shows an increase in the ratio of these to the species characteristic quantities of deoxyribonucleic acid of the diploid chromosome group; this increase is regarded as parallel to phylogenetic position.

D. S. FARNER (Chem. Abstr.)

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Spies, T. D., and Stone, R. E. [Southern Med. J., 42, 410 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 916 (1949).]

In 5 cases (without anemia), injections of vitamin B_{12} decreased muscle cramps and fibrillation and briefly delayed the progress of the disease, but without improvement in the abnormal physical signs. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Quantitative Determination of Ribonucleic Acid from Individual Nerve Cells. Edstrom, Jan Erik. [Biochem. et Biophys. Acta, 11, 300 (1953).]

A method is described for the determination of ribonucleic acid (RNA) in individual nerve cells; this method involves dissection of fixed cells into individual cells, determination of the cell volume, extermination of the cell with buffered ribonuclease solution and microspectrophotometric est of the (RNA) content of the extract. The accuracy of the method applied to fixed nerve cells of size $20 \times 10^3 - 60 \times 10^3 \ \mu^3$ is at least ± 4 per cent. The mean (RNA) concentration of 12 individual motor anterior horn cells was 0.67 ± 0.10 per cent., values for individual cells varying from 0.18 to 1.29 per cent.

MORTON PADER (Chem. Abstr.)

Acetylcholine in the Brain in Various Functional Stages. Herken, Hans and Diether, Neubert. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 219, 223 (1953).] Killing rats with liquid air offers no advantage in the determination of acetylcholine (I) as compared with other methods. No change in the (I) was found in electroshock, metrazole, or schilliroside convulsions. Narcosis causes a marked increase in (I). The same effect of intravenous injection of eserine is based on a different mechanism. Metrazole can normalize the (I) content in narcosis. Prostigmine causes a slight increase. p-Nitrophenyl diethyl phosphate (II) produces an increase at the same rate as eserine. The symptoms of poisoning by (II) in mice are prevented by pretreatment with some hexachlorohexanes.

A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Structural and Cytochemical Modifications in the Anterior Radicular Cells of the Spinal Medulla of Fatigued Animals. Mangione, Francesco. [Rass. Med., 30, 53 (1953).] Radicular spinal cells of the cervical and lumbar-sacral segments of fatigued rats showed

a progressive decrease in cytoplasmic ribonucleic acid. The amount of decrease depended on the extent of fatigue. The ribonucleic acid was restored during the resting phase. In extreme fatigue, the nucleolus maintained the normal amount of ribonucleic acid while its deoxyribonucleic acid diminished. Thus the fulcral role in cellular protein synthesis played by the nucleolus was put in evidence. The experimental observations were carried out by means of known staining reactions of the chromophilic substance of the cells. P. T. Izzo (Chem. Abstr.)

Ocular Phenomena of Postencephalitic Parkinsonism. Crow, J. [Glasgow Med. J., 30, 29 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 911 (1949).]

Pathological features of 80 cases are described. Inhalation of iso-Amnitrite failed to produce oculogyric crises, hence these crises probably result from vestibular action rather than W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) emotional stimulation.

Autolysis in Normal and Pathological Cerebrospinal Fluids. Kovacs, Ernest. [Can. J. Med. Sci., 31, 358 (1953).]

The acid-solution P concentrated of 850 specimens of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was determined before and after incubation under standardized conditions. P changes resulted from interaction of enzymes and P-containing organic material in the CSF. Normal CSF, and a large number of poliomyelitis specimens, exhibited no P changes after incubation. In the CSF of acute bacterial meningitides a great increase of P usually occurred and a great increase was found in active neurosyphilis. The CSF of idiopathic epileptics and of patients with posttraumatic syndrome showed high P release. The CSF in cases of brain tumor manifested moderate changes. A. E. TERRI (Chem. Abstr.)

Antidiuretic Action of Cerebrospinal Fluid. Butturini, U., and Marinoni, U. [Riforma med. 63, 193 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 903 (1949).] In human and boyine cerebrospinal fluid (I) the spinal fluid had more antidiuretic action

(II) than the cerebral fluid, contrary to other reports. The (II) of (I) is probably identical with that of the posterior-pituitary gland. However, (I) also contains a diuretic substance and one influencing Cl metabolism. The action of (I) on urine flow probably results from 2 antagonistic hormones of pituitary origin. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

A Chemical Phase in the Transmission of Nervous Effects. Dale, Henry. [Endeavour, 12, 117 (1953).] For some 50 years, evidence has been accumulating which indicates that transmission

across cell junctions occurs by chemical means, and that a principal agent involved is the ester acetylcholine. The history of the subject is surveyed. S. TOLANSKY (Chem. Abstr.)

The Nervous Impulse. Spadoline, I. [Sistema nervoso, 1, 3 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 891 (1949).]

A review and discussion, including a new theory of electrochemical transmission in pses. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) synapses.

The Cerebral Circulation and Metabolism in Arteriosclerotic and Hypertensive Cerebrovascular Disease, with Observations on the Effects of Inhalation of Different Concentrations of Oxygen. Heyman, Albert, et al. [New Engl. J. Med., 249, 223 (1953).] The mean cerebral blood flow was somewhat less in older control subjects than in young

The mean cerebral blood flow was somewhat less in older control subjects than in young healthy patients and was greatly reduced in patients with cerebrovascular accidents. The cerebral O consumption was reduced markedly by chronic cerebrovascular disease, but only slightly reduced by a single acute vascular accident, and was slightly less in the older than in the younger group of healthy persons. Cerebral blood flow in patients with cerebrovascular accidents was reduced by administration of 85-100 per cent. O, but little affected by administration of 50 per cent. O. The O uptake of the brain was unaffected by O administration at either level. Because of the vasoconstrictive effect of 100 per cent. O inhalation, use of this concentration in patients with cerebrovascular accidents should probably be avoided.

MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Poliomyelitis-like Cerebrospinal-fluid Findings in Cattle from Farms with Cases of Human Infantile Paralysis. Frauchiger, E., and Schmid, G. [Schweiz. med. Wochschr., 79, 316 (1949).]

Pathological changes, including increased cell count and protein content, as well as nges in sugar content, are described. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) changes in sugar content, are described.

Pathology of the Meninges in Relation to the Hematoencephalic Barrier. 1. Small Arachnoidal Plaques. Dina, M. A. [Riv. sper. freniat. e med. legale alienazioni mentali, 72, 293 (1948).1

The plaques originate from protein thesaurismosis, and consist of a hyaline substance, osteoid. They are rarely calcified. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

A Case of Familial Recurrent Paralysis. Study of Potassium Metabolism. Malaguzzi-Valeri, C. [Progr. med. (Naples), 5, 83 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 924 (1949).]

Serum K was low (14-16 mg. per cent.) and at the beginning of an attack decreased to 6.07 mg. per cent. After injection of adrenal cortex extracts it dropped to 9 mg. per cent. and remained at this level for 2 hours without causing symptoms. This indicates that the muscle K is of main importance, not the blood K. After 5 g. of KCl orally, blood K increased to a maximum of 19.52 mg. per cent. after 2 hours, then decreased. The tissues appeared to be "thirsty" for K salts. Giving KCl after adrenocortical extract increased the blood K only slightly. The role of K in muscular contraction is discussed. Low K levels may be associated with insulin coma and with the asthenia accompanying infectious diseases. Paralysis from low W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) K levels can be produced experimentally.

Sarcoma Caudae Equinae with Hypothalamic and Bulbar Disturbances (Syndrome of Simmonds). Brouwer, B., and Posthumus Meyjes, F. E. [Proc. Acad. Sci. Amsterdam, 51, 285 (1948); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 921 (1949).] Pathological features in a girl of 14 are described. There was diabetes insipidus, but

disturbances of carbohydrate metabolism were not present, showing that in chronic lesions the paraventricular nuclei may be seriously damaged without producing glycosuria or hypo-W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) glycemia.

Prognosis of Injuries of the Skull, Based on Examination of the Cerebrospinal Fluid. Guszich, A [Orvosi Hetilap, 90, 216 (1949); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 903 (1949).]

The cerebrospinal fluid (I) normally contains no NH_3 (II) but (II) appears in states of excitation (III). When (III) is localized in the brain stem, the amount of (II) is 0-120 γ per cent.; when (III) reaches the cortex the (II) concentration is $450-500\gamma$ per cent. in infants and children and 1,500-3,000 in adults. Determination of (II) in (I) is helpful in the localization of nervous lesions and in prognosis. Average amounts of (II) (in 7 per cent.) are: in concussion 112-1,420 (in fatal cases 1,500-1,900); in contusion 781-1,650; in 2 fatal cases of cerebral peduncle hemorrhage 97-112; in subdural hematoma 70-240; in indentation of the skull 790-1,250. In fractures of the base of the skull with unconsciousness, the amount did not exceed 1,390y per cent.; in fatal cases 1,260-3,050. Amounts of (II) of 110-120y per cent. may indicate lesions of the midbrain and brain stem and may be as serious as values above 1,800. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) With values above 2,000 per cent. the prognosis is bad.

Glycolysis in the Brain. Lenti, C. [Boll. soc. ital. biol. sper., 28, 1969 (1952).]

Brain homogenate does not produce more lactic acid from glucose in the presence of ferrous sulfate or of glutathione than from glucose alone. M. ELLIOTT (Chem. Abstr.)

A General Method for the Preparation of Cerebrosides. Uzman, L. Lahut. [Arch. Biochem. Biophys., 45, 149 (1953).]

A new method applicable to spleen and brain tissue for the large-scale preparation of cerebrosides is described. It involves the extraction of total lipides from fresh tissue with a boiling CHCl₃-MeOH mixture and isolation of the cerebrosides by virtue of their property of accumulating at the interface when diluted Cl₃CCO₂H is added to the lipide extract. Cerebroside preparations thus obtained account for 65-75 per cent. of the total tissue cerebrosides. Infrared absorption spectra are presented for preparations from cattle brains and from 3 spleens from patients with Gaucher's disease. FELIX SAUNDERS (Chem. Abstr.)

The Concept of a Damping Effect and its Applications in Nervous Physiology. Monnier, A. M. [Anales inst. farmacol. españ. (Madrid), (1) 99, (1952).] Discussion of a new characteristic nervous function based on the physical concept of "amortissement" (damping?) (1). It represents the stability of the nerve, its opposition to activation by external or spontaneous stimulation. It is measured by applying to the nerve 2 electrical stimuli separated by a variable interval. The first stimulus is adjusted to a sub-minimal value so that no response is evoked. The second stimulus is another at varying intervals. minimal value so that no response is evoked. The second stimulus is applied at varying intervals. The intensity of the second stimulus is adjusted each time to obtain a response. There is plotted the intensity of the second stimulus as a function of the interval separating it from the first stimulus. The effects of Ca + + deficiency, narcotics, chemical mediators, and CO_2 have been determined (1) is related to the membrane potential of the nerve and is suggested as an indirect measurement that can be performed in situ without necessitating electrodes in contact with the nerve. Superiority of (1) as a diagnostic technique over classical procedures is claimed because of the short duration of current flow and the minimal alteration of tissue during the test. HERMAN I. CHINN (Chem. Abstr.)

Effect of Cortisone and Deoxycorticosterone (DOC) on Carbohydrates in the Brain. Vaccari,

F., and Rossanda, M. [Boll. soc. ital. biol. sper., **27**, 734 (1951).] Normal and adrenalectomized rats were treated with cortisone and DOC, and the brain

glycogen was determined. The average values were 1.640 mg/g. in controls, 1.206 in adrenalectomized rats, 1.379 in DOC-treated adrenalectomized rats, and 1.425 in cortisonetreated adrenalectomized rats. In normal rats, the total brain carbohydrate was 5.217 mg./g.

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in controls, 5.250 in DOC-treated, and 5.256 in cortisone-treated rats; the corresponding figures for adrenalectomized rats were 4.760, 4.680, and 5.600 mg/g., respectively. Thus, cortisone exerts an effect on carbohydrate metabolism in the brain, but DOC does not. B.A. (Chem. Abstr.)

Binding of Acetylcholine. Brodkin, E., and Elliott, K. A. C. [Am. J. Physiol., 173, 437 (1953).] Maximum stability of the bound acetylcholine (ACh) in brain suspensions is found at about pH 7. The rate of breakdown increases rapidly above pH 8 and below pH 6. The rate of breakdown of bound ACh in brain is greatly accelerated, especially initially, by suspension in hypotonic medium and by high concentrations of K, Ca, or Mg ions. The presence of eserine seems to decrease the breakdown appreciably. The increased ACh content of normal brain slices incubated aerobically in the presence of glucose is accounted for mainly by bound ACh, which is extracted by acid but not by neutral medium. The bound ACh in brain suspensions is increased by the presence of ACh ($30 \gamma/ml$) in the medium. Heart- and skeletal-muscle suspensions bind ACh slightly. No binding was detected with liver, kidney, or testis suspensions. Convulsant and narcotic drugs tested (other than ether) exerted no effects on liberation or E. D. WALTER (Chem. Abstr.) binding of ACh by brain suspensions.

A New Chamber for Fixation of the Chemical Composition of the Brain of Rats in the State of Conditioned-reflex Block and Stimulation. Vladimirova, E. A. [Doklady Akad. Nauk. S.S.S.R., 90, 1191 (1953).1

The apparatus consists of a Plexiglass cylinder whose bottom is an electrode plate made of thin Cu strips. The top contains openings for ventilation. The cylinder is provided with side of thin Cu strips. The top contains openings for ventilation. The cylinder is provided with side doors for passage of the animal to side chambers in response to stimuli. The bottom plate electrode can be excited to 15-20 v. for the nonconditioned stimulus. Photographs of the apparatus in use are shown and its use described in detail. For brain examination the apparatus is placed above a chamber with liquid O₂, into which the animal can be dropped instantly for fixation of the chemical composition of its brain. During the 1st 15 seconds of stimulation there is observed a rise in NH₃ in the cerebrum and a decrease during a longer stimulation (10 minutes) With conditioned reflex block of the central nervous system for 120 seconds the (10 minutes). With conditioned-reflex block of the central nervous system for 120 seconds the content of NH_3 in the cerebrum dropped by 19 per cent. below normal. With stimulation of central nervous system there is an increase of 64 per cent. of NH_3 in rats that had been artificially waked from sleep; this was a 228 per cent. increase over the level found during normal sleep. G. M. KOSOLAPOFF (Chem. Abstr.)

Effect of a Brain Fraction on Serum Cholesterol and the Serum-lipide Pattern. Gordon, Robert B., et al. [J. Lab. Clin. Med., 41, 583 (1953).]

Sheep brains were extracted with acetone and petroleum ether to yield a 0.312 per cent. cholesterol residue. This was fed to cockerels on high- and low-cholesterol diets and total cholesterol, total lipide, phospholipide, and ultra-centrifuge pattern determined after 14 days. On the low-cholesterol diet the controls lowered the serum cholesterol from 124 to 119 mg. per cent. while those fed the brain extract lowered from 124 to 104 mg. per cent. over the 14-day period. The final total lipide and phospholipide averaged 385 and 163 mg. per cent. in the controls compared to 382 and 143 mg, per cent, in those fed the extract. On the high-cholesterol diet the total cholesterol changed from 150 to 698 mg, per cent, in controls and from 139 to 306 mg, per cent, in those fed the extract. The total lipide was 1,444 mg, per cent, in the controls and 736 mg, per cent, in the extract-fed chickens. The phospholipide was 292 in the controls and 164 mg, per cent. in the extract-fed. Ultracentrifuge patterns showed reduction in the large peak in the Sr 20-70 range to half the control value. The authors feel that brain extract promotes the conversion of cholesterol to unabsorbable coprosterol in the bowel; this removes cholesterol from the body. FRANK IBER (Chem. Abstr.)

The Action of Nervous Depressants on the Antidiuretic and Chloruretic Effects of Nicotine. Supek, Z., and Eisen, V. [Arch. intern, pharmacodynamie, 93, 75 (1953).]

In hydrated rats, nicotine base (1.7 mg/kg.) produced an antidiuretic and pronounced chloruretic effect. Tetraethylammonium, diparcol, parpanit, pentamethonium, procaine, and atropine did not affect the excretion of water or Cl ions, either alone or after nicotine. Phenobarbital (130 mg./kg.) inhibited the antidiuretic effect of nicotine, and urethan increased it. The chloride excretion was increased by phenobarbital and not affected by urethan.

M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

Blood-iron Curves in Cases of Amentia and Schizophrenia. Ferroni, A., and Lipani, G. [Acta

Blood-iron Curves in Cases of Amenita and Schizophrenia. Ferrom, in, and Expand, et al. Neurol. (Naples), 3, 568 (1948).] Intravenous injections of ferrocalcium or ferronascine (containing 7 mg. Fe) were made in 4 imbeciles and 24 schizophrenics. The former had a fairly normal serum-Fe response. Chronic schizophrenics showed retarded absorption of Fe. In acute (particularly hebephrenic) schizophrenia the serum-Fe was below normal both before and after the injections. In acute catatonia the differences from the normal were less marked. The paranoid cases showed deviations which were difficult to interpret. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

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Psychophysical Correlations. VI. Experimental Investigation of the Problem of Schizophrenia. Mescaline Toxicosis and Liver Function. Georgi, F., et al. [Schweiz. med. Wochschr., 79, 121 (1949).]

In normal subjects, administering mescaline decreases the amount of hippuric acid excreted after giving Na benzoate and glycine. Persons with liver disease have an increased sensitivity to this test. Toxins believed to provoke schizophrenia may act in part upon the W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) liver.

Pathogenesis of Hepatocerebral Diseases. II. Histochemical Demonstration of Copper in the Liver. Okinaka, Shigeo, et al. [Igaku to Seibutsugaku (Med. and Biol.), 25, 133 (1952).]

Cu reaction-positive granules were found histochemically in the livers of patients with Wilson's disease and with cirrhosis of the liver. The amount and the distribution of these granules differed in these 2 conditions. Pathological observations were discussed.

111. The Copper Metabolism in Wilson's Disease. Okinaka, Shigeo, et al. [Ibid. 209-12.] The Cu concentrations of the livers of 2 patients with Wilson's diseases were: 34.78(histochemically positive) and $13 \cdot 1$ mg. per cent. (negative). In control tests, the Cu contents were: subacute yellow atrophy, $14 \cdot 29$; cirrhosis of the liver, $14 \cdot 0$; in 15 other cases, below $8 \cdot 3$ mg, per cent. (the 1st 2 cases were histochemically positive). The Cu content of serum in Wilson's disease was 0.200 mg, per cent. and was not different from the normal values. How-ever, the urinary excretion was (average) 0.764 mg/day and was far higher than the normal values. The amino acid content of the serum (total amino N) was 3.1 mg. per cent. and the maximum urinary excretion 150 mg./day. The urinary excretion of Cu in Wilson's disease increased at 1 and 2 days after the administration of 2, 3-dimercaptopropanol.

IV. The Relation Between the Cholinesterase of Basal Ganglia and Liver Diseases. Okinaka, Shigeo, et al. [Ibid., 281-3.]

Results of determinations of cholinesterase activities are given for basal ganglia of 14 patients with liver diseases and of 14 patients with other diseases. No decrease in the enzymic activity was observed in liver diseases. M. NAKAMURA (Chem. Abstr.)

The Eye and the Diencephalon. XI. The behavior of "Light Sense" in the Tonus Changes of the Neurovegetative System. Tiberi, Gian Franco. [Riv. oto-neurol-oftalmol., 25, 285 (1950); Am. J. Ophthalmol., 34, 473 (1951).]

The light sense was studied in respect to changes in the tone of the neurovegetative system produced by sympathicotopic and parasympathicotopic compounds such as pilocarpine and atropine. The drugs apparently have a central (diencephalic) action and the light sense possibly responds differently to drugs affecting the vagosympathetic equilibrium as contrasted with those that act peripherally. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) those that act peripherally.

Modern Views on Synapses in Relation to Neuropathology. Grashchenkov, N. I. [Nevropatol. i Psikhiat., 17, No. 4, 17-26 (1948).]

The pharmacological effects of neostigmine (1) in neuropathological conditions are discussed and reviewed, with reference to conditions of asynapsia, hyposynapsia, and hypersynapsia. The pharmacological effectiveness of (1) in tick-borne and mosquito-borne encephalitis indicates that a synaptic dysfunction is involved. In some brain injuries, α and β waves disappear from the electroencephalogram, followed by the appearance of new waves of great amplitude and frequency a few weeks later. If 1 ml. of 0.01 per cent. (1) is injected sub-cutaneously, normal waves reappear. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Diencephalo-hypophyseal Diseases. Heller, E. F. [Årztl. Wochschr., 4, 83 (1949).] A girl with growth disturbances was observed for 12 years. During and after treatment with thyroid and later with anterior pituitary preparations, many diencephalo-hypophyseal symptoms (including abnormal blood Ca, albumin, and glucose levels) were seen, as well as absent or abnormal response to pilocarpine and adrenaline. Other pathological features are considered. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Fluid and Electrolyte Exchange in the Brain in Experimental Convulsions. Adams, John E., et al. [Trans. Am. Neurol. Assoc., 77, 34 (1952).] Tracer experiments with Na³⁴ and P³² administered intraperitoneally to the golden

hamster showed that convulsions produced by intraperitoneal injection of cocaine were followed by a shift of water and Na from the extracellular fluid into the cells of the brain. MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Electroencephalographic Effects of Intracarotid Injections of Diodrast. Foltz, E. L., et al. [Trans. Am. Neurol. Assoc., 76, 115 (1951).] In normal monkeys anesthetized lightly with dial, intracarotid injection of diodrast (1)

usually caused a seizure pattern on the electroencephalogram, but sometimes produced marked flattening and attenuation of activity on the side of injection. Cortical activation by (1) was inversely related to depth of anesthesia, was most marked in nonanesthetized subjects, and

Effect of Cortisone on Peripheral Nerve during Wallerian Degeneration. McColl, J. D., and Weston, J. K. [Rev. can. biol., 12, 68 (1953).] The daily administration of 7.5 mg./kg. of cortisone acetate to cats for 16 days following sciatic nerve section had no effect on the edema which normally follows such section. The tensile strength of the 16-day degenerated nerves in the cortisone-treated group was statistically less than that of the nerves in the treated and non-treated (control) groups. Cortisone adminis-tration resulted in less total cellularity in the 16-day degenerated nerves and hence appeared to inhibit the cellular reaction. Cortisone administered in overdose appeared to inhibit protein (collagen) anabolism in Wallerian degeneration. The decrease in the concentration of the lipides associated with the myelin sheath (cerebroside, sphingomyelin, and free cholesterol) 16 days following nerve section was not significantly altered by cortisone. There was no significant difference in the tensile strength of the intact nerves as compared to the 16-day degenerated nerves in the untreated animals. A. PAPINEAU-COUTURE (Chem. Abstr.)

Unsaturated Fatty Acids in Neurological Diseases. Rossini, R. [Riv. neurol., 19, 141 (1949); Excerpta Med., 3, 176 (1950).]

Low-temperature ether extracts were made of serums in 66 cases of neurological disease. A high 1 no. (>0.70) was strong presumptive evidence of a neoplasm of the central nervous system. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Histological and Topographic Changes and Vulnerability Relations in the Human Brain in Oxygen-deficiency Edema, and Plasma Infiltration. 1. Definitions of Problems, Histological Aspects. Scholz, W. [Arch. Psychiat. Nervenkrankh., 181, 621-64 (1949).]

Mainly pathological and histological. In edema, exudates rich in protein gradually cause anoxemia and secondary cell changes (which are described) from lack of oxygen. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

2. Pharmacology and Treatment

Acute Barbiturate Poisoning. Lous, P., et al. [Ugeskrift Laeger, 111, 349 (1949).] Some 375 patients were studied. In 5 of the most severely poisoned cases (3 died) there were periods of a few seconds to several minutes when no cortical activity was recorded in were periods of a few seconds to several minutes when no control activity may received. Lower electroencephalograms. Oliguria and increased blood urea nearly always occurred. Lower nephron nephrosis was sometimes observed. Methods of therapy are discussed. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Chronic Barbiturism. Francone, M. P. [Rev. med. cienc. afines (Buenos Aires), (11), 179 (1949).] The pharmacological properties and chemical structure of barbiturates are discussed in W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) reference to chronic intoxication.

Combined Effects of Analeptics on the Central Nervous System: Influence of Electric Current on Spasmodic Action and on Toxicity. Ostretko, O. P. [Farmakol. i Toksikol., 16, No. 1, 28 (1953).]

The convulsive dose of metrazole:coramine, metrazole:strychnine, and coramine: strychnine blends in frogs shows synergism; the threshold dose is smaller than for either component alone. In rabbits these blends show antagonism as to size of convulsive dose but not as to mortality; LD_{50} was only slightly sensitive to blending of the components.

JULIAN F. SMITH (Chem. Abstr.)

Cholinergic Activity of the Brain Tissue as Influenced by Bulbocapnine, Mescaline, and N. N-diethyllysergamide. Poloni, A., and Maffezzoni, G. [Sistema nervoso, 4, 578 (1952).] In guinea pigs, the administration of the diethylamide of lysergic acid, bulbocapnine, and mescaline (0.02-4, 50-100, and 20-100 mg., respectively) caused, respectively, an increase, a decrease, and no change of the cholinergic activity of the cerebral cortex.

C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Isoniazid in Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF), Blood, and Urine. Ricci, G. G., et al. [Aggiorn. pediat., 3, 193 (1952).]

The administration of 1.45 mg. isoniazid (1) per kg. body weight to some patients with tuberculous meningitis caused the highest blood concentration of the drug at the 2nd-3rd hour. Higher doses caused higher and more lasting levels. The passage of the drug to the CSF occurred in the 1st hour. The subarachnoid administration of (1) maintained the CSF content for 10 hours. Nearly 40 per cent. of the administered (1) was excreted through the urine in 24 hours. C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Adenosine 5-monophosphate in the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis. Lowry, M. Lester, et al. [Am. J. Med. Sci., 226, 73 (1953).] Adenosine 5-monophosphate (My-B-Den) (I) given for 6-10 months to 16 patients with

severe multiple sclerosis, produced an 86 per cent. improvement in endurance and a 72 per cent amelioration of bladder disabilities, and reduced the abnormally high pyruvic acid (II)/lactic acid (III) ratio in the blood toward normal. Incoordination, visual disturbances, spasticity, sexual weakness, and paresthesia were not helped by (I) or by brief trials of Fe adenosine 3-monophosphate, oral KCl, or adrenocorticotropic hormone. Best clinical results, without toxic reactions, were produced by 100 mg. (I) in aqueous solution 3 times/week, rather than by 20 mg. in gelatin. Multiple sclerosis may be a disease involving carbohydrate metabolism with a block at the (II)-(III) level. While search is being made for a more effective remedy, (I) warrants further investigation in the treatment of this disease and possibly other neuromuscular disturbances. MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

The Medical Aspects of Electric Shock Therapy (Including a Study of 192 Patients). Niesen,

Edmond H., jr. [Am. J. Med. Sci., 226, 143 (1953).] Among the effects described are the effects on extracellular fluid balance. Water metabolism and eosinophil count resemble those which occur after the administration of the 11-oxysteroids, but remissions are not the result of increased secretion of these hormones. MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Activation of Muscle Spindles by Succinovlcholine and Decamethonium. The Effects of Curare. Granit, Ragnar, et al. [Acta Physiol. Scand., 28, 134 (1953).] Succinovlcholine (Sch) has a strong transient blocking effect on neuromuscular trans-

mission due to depolarization of the motor end-plate. The effect has been studied by intra-arterial injection on single muscle spindles in cats. Spindle excitation by Sch was favored by an dose of Sch. Even after full paralysis of alpha motor fibers as well as gamma fibers by d-tubocurarine, the transient increase of discharge rate could still be elicited by large doses of Sch, but ultimately it paralyzed the gamma end-plates. Decamethonium also increased the discharge rate of muscle spindles but the effect lasted at least an hour and the irregular bursts of discharge could be blocked by large doses of curare. It is suggested that Sch, apart from its action on the gamma fiber end-plates, affects the sensory spindle organs directly

S. MORGULIS (Chem. Abstr.)

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Influence of Dihydrogenated Ergot Alkaloids (Hydergin) on Hypoglycemic Convulsions and Death. Osswald, H., and Rossel, W. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs Arch. exptl. Pathol. u. Pharmakol., 218, 295 (1953).]

Hydergin significantly delays the onset of convulsions and death in rats and mice treated with convulsive doses of insulin. Postmortal investigation of the capillaries in the central nervous system showed that the effect is not caused by an improvement of the circulation in the brain. Pendiomid is able to prevent or assuage the vascular spasm produced by insulin but it has no influence on the time of convulsions and death. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Treatment of Infectious Diseases of the Nervous System by Massive Doses of Vitamin B_1 and the Peculiarity of Its Action on Pain Syndrome. Evzerova, E. K., and Shinyanskaya, Ts. Ya. [Vrachebnoe Delo., 27, 587 (1947).]

Clinical tests with 1.5-3.0 g. vitamin B₁ total doses (parenteral) showed good results in most cases of pain and sensory disturbances caused by infections of the spinal-cord rootlets and spinal nerves. Motor disturbances are not in this category, as the results in such cases were very variable. If the sympathin content of the blood is super-normal, vitamin B_1 does not G. M. KOSOLAPOFF (Chem. Abstr.) have the pain-relieving activity.

Caffeine (use) in Morning Headaches in Hypertensive disease. Dmitrenko, L. F. [Vrachebnoe Delo., 27, 545 (1947).]

The morning headaches associated with hypertension appear to be caused by restricted venous blood flow in the brain. Caffeine appears to improve this circulation and reduces, therefore, the blood pressure within the cranium. G. M. KOSOLAPOFF (Chem. Abstr.)

Anticonvulsive Effect of Carbonic Anhydrase. Keller, Herbert. [Klin. Wochschr., 31, 617 (1953).] Cardiazole convulsions in mice were counteracted by carbonic anhydrase injection. ERICH HEFTMANN (Chem. Abstr.)

Anticonvulsant Properties of Mysoline, a New Antiepileptic Drug. Goodman, L. S., et al. [J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap., 108, 428 (1953).]

The pharmacological properties of mysoline (1) are compared with those of phenobarbital. The change in chemical structure from phenobarbital to (1) (replacement of the O in the urea moiety by 2 H atoms) does not alter the spectrum of anticonvulsant activity, but results in a less potent anticonvulsant agent as measured by several different tests. When (1) is given to rats and mice, crystals of phenylethylmalondiamide appear in the urine. L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

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A Comparison of the Pharmacological Actions of Phenothiazine Derivatives Used in the Treatment of Parkinsonism. Hutcheon, Duncan E. [J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap., 108, 340 (1953).]

Diparcol, phenergan, and parsidol show the following effects: local anesthesia when injected intradermally in guinea pigs; inhibition of acetylcholine-induced contractions of the isolated guinea pig ileum; inhibition of salivary secretion induced by infusion of carbachol in anesthetized dogs; and lengthening of the refractory period of isolated rabbit auricles as measured by the decrease in the maximal rate of stimulation. Diparcol was the most active in all tests. In cats under chloralose diparcol did not inhibit gastric acid secretion provoked by L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.) histamine.

Cytochrome Enzymes in the Brain and Liver of the Chronically Morphinized Rat. Wang, R. I. H., and Bain, J. A. [J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap., 108, 349 (1953).] Brains and livers from chronically morphinized rats showed a decrease in liver diphospho

pyridine nucleotide (DPN) cytochrome c reductase during morphinization and withdrawal, and a slight increase of brain and liver cytochrome c oxidase levels during morphinization followed by a marked decrease during withdrawal. No changes were observed in the malic dehydrogenase activity of either tissue. Brain DPN-cytochrome c reductase activity was not affected by the morphinization experiments. L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

Arterial Hypertension by Veratrum Derivatives Injected into the Nervous Centers. Cicardo, V. H. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 94, 65 (1953).]

The injection of Veratrum viride alkaloids into the cisterna magna, cerebral ventricles, or spinal cord in dogs is followed by marked hypertension, from stimulation of the vasomotor centers. Dibenamine, hydergin, priscol, and dihydroergotamine partly antagonize the effect. М. L. С. Векинем (Chem. Abstr.)

Barbiturates and Phosphatases. Manzini, Attilio and Zoboli, Paolo. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 94, 75 (1953).]

The alkaline phosphatase activities of brain, liver and kidney were measured after 1-10 days treatment of the rat with 5-ethyl-5'-methylthiobutyl-2-thiobarbituric acid or 5-isopropyl-5'-bromoallyl-3-N-methylbarbituric acid. The activities of brain and liver phosphatase were increased, and that of the kidney decreased. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

Anticonvulsant Properties of Unsaturated Carbinols. Swinyard, E. A., et al. [Arch. intern.

The pharmacodynamic, 94, 81 (1953).] $HC = CC(CH_3)$ (OH)C₃H₆ (I), $HC = CC(CH_3)$ (OH)CH=CH₄ (II) and $HC = CC(C_3H_5)$ (OH)CH=CH₂ (III) all modify the seizures produced in laboratory animals by electric shock or metrazole and also raise the threshold for the production of seizures. (III) Is most toxic, most potent and of shortest duration. (I) Acts for longer than (II), and in larger doses affects the complicate of protects produced the production of seizures. the convulsions of patients receiving electric shock therapy. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

The Hypothalamic-cortical System in Barbiturate Anesthesia. Gellhorn, E. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 93, 434 (1953).]

Increasing the depth of barbiturate anesthesia in cats is accompanied by the gradual loss of cortical "background" potentials, and diminution in the frequency of hypothalamic potentials. This is similar to the effect of hypercapnia. In deep anesthesia, the cortico-hypothalamic system may be unreactive, while the reactivity of the sensory projection areas is M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.) retained.

Influence of Some Narcotics and Sedatives on Blood Coagulation. Macht, David I. [Arch. intern.

pharmacodynamie, **93**, 325 (1953).] The clotting time of whole blood in rabbits is not influenced by codeine, papaverine, dihydromorphinone, dihydrocodeinone, methadone, cocaine, ether, CHCl₃, EtOH, urethan, barbital, phenobarbital, seconal, or nembutal. Morphine, procaine, novocaine, ethyl morphine, diacetyl morphine, N-allyl morphine, and demerol all promote blood clotting, approximately in decreasing order of activity. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

The Effect of the Antihistaminic Drugs on the Central Nervous System in Rats and Mice. Heinrich, Max A. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 92, 444 (1953).]

Phenindamine, tripelennamine, and prophenpyridamine were least active, thonzylamine, methapyrilene, ambodryl, and toladryl were fairly active and phenergan, diphenhydramine, antazoline, and chlorprophenpyridamine were quite active in potentiating the effects of hexethal and other hypnotic and narcotic drugs in rats. Amobarbital is least affected, secobarbital, pentobarbital, butabarbital, thiopental, hexethal, hexobarbital, chloral hydrate, urethan, and tribromoethanol are intermediate, and paraldehyde is most potentiated by diphenhydramine. Tolerance develops to diphenhydramine HCl with daily doses; at first, 10 mg. is equivalent to 6-9 mg. intraperitoneal Na hexethal. Amphetamine antagonizes hexethal and hexethal-diphenhydramine narcoses in rats, but the effect of caffeine was not predictable. Diphenhydramine usually antagonizes the loss of running ability caused in mice

by ether or chloroform, and potentiates the curariform action of ether in fatigue. The antihistamines do not appreciably alter the food intake or the spontaneous activity of rats or hamsters. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

Neuromuscular Paralysis of Controlled Intensity and Duration Obtained by Perfusion with Succinylcholine. Reuse, J. J. [Arch. intern, pharmacodynamic, 92, 417 (1953).] In dogs, continuous perfusion of succinylcholine in different concentrations establishes a

definite paralysis for varying periods of time, and does not affect the recovery period once the perfusion is stopped. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

Activity and Toxicity of Certain Antiepileptics, Standardized by Means of Experimental Electrical Epilepsy. Frommel, V. Ed., et al. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 92, 368 (1953).]

The effects of phenobarbital, diphenylhydantoin, phenacetylurea (I), and phenylethyl-acetylurea (II) on the thresholds for the tonic phase and coma during electrical epileptic fits in guinea pigs were studied. Phenobarbital is effective for electrical and chemical fits, but has hypototic and depressive actions. Its therapeutic index (min. lethal dose/activity) is $6\cdot3$ for strychnine fits, 16 for coramine, 5 for metrazole, and 1.9 for electric shock. Diphenylhydantoin acts especially on the tonic phase, and its index is 1 for chemical shock, but 1.9 for electric shock. (1) Is not depressant, but may cause pathological changes in the liver and blood. Its index is 4.5 for strychnine, 3.3 for coramine, 15 for metrazole, and 7.6 for electric shock. (II) Is very effective in all kinds of seizures. Its index is 10.3 for strychnine, 14 for coramine, >10 for metrazole, and 5.1 for electric shock. M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

The Pharmacology of 3-chloro-10-(3-dimethylaminopropyl) Phenothiazine-HCl. A Substance which Potentiates Anesthetics and Causes Hibernation. Courvoisier, Simone, et al. [Arch. intern. pharmacodynamie, 92, 305 (1953).]

The LD₅₀ of 3-chloro-10-(3)dimethylaminopropyl-phenothiazine-HCl(R.P. 4560) intravenously for mice, rats, and rabbits is comparable to that of promethazine, isothazine, and diethazine; it is more toxic by mouth. It has a mild parasympatholytic action, and inhibits the secretion of HCl. It has a general antiadrenaline effect, but does not reduce adrenaline hyperglycemia. It is a mild antispasmodic. Intravenous injection into dogs of 0.5-5 mg./kg. produces mild hypotension and has little action on the heart. In rats it prevents, to some extent, the edema following ovalbumin or dextran, and has no effect on kidney function even after repeated doses. In high concentrations it inhibits blood coagulation, and depresses respiration in rabbits. It has little antihistamine effect. It has a marked potentiating effect on general anesthetics, both hypnotic and analgesic, and narcosis can thus be obtained with much smaller doses of the analgesic. With a curarizing drug, gallamine triethiodide, it does not increase the toxicity but aids in the induction and duration of the curarization. It increases the local action of procaine, and has some local anesthetic action of itself. It potentiates the narcotic effects of EtOH, and suppresses the excitation, and shows anticonvulsive effects against coramine and nicotine, but not strychnine. It has a strong hypothermic effect, greater than that of pyramidon, and suppresses thermoregulation. It reduces the respiratory exchange in nerve cells. The emetic effect of apomorphine is completely antagonized by it. It is very active against hemorrhagic shock in dogs and traumatic shock in rats.

M. L. C. BERNHEIM (Chem. Abstr.)

Local Anesthetic Effects of Sodium Amytal. Schiller, Francis. [Anesthesiology, 14, 321 (1953).] Sodium 5-isoamyl ethylbarbiturate in 4 per cent. isotonic solution has good local anesthetic properties when injected intradermally in human subjects or applied to frog sciatic-nerve preparations. In rhesus monkeys it produces spinal anesthesia before producing sleep when injected subdurally. Sodium secobarbital produces more profound and partly irreversible local anesthesia. Sodium phenobarbital has only very slight or no anesthesia. Sodium phenobarbital has only very slight or no anesthetic effect in human skin wheals.

KARL F. URBACH (Chem. Abstr.)

Recent Advances in the Study of Psychotonic Amines. Sabrié, R. [Rev. méd. franç., 29, 89 (1948); Excerpta Med., Sect. VIII, 2, 881 (1949).]

The pharmacol. properties of d-amphetamine sulfate (dexedrine, maxilton) are discussed. It has a spectacular action against barbiturate coma. Other applications are described. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

The Effects of Curare and Prostigmine on the Central Nervous System. Berman, S. [Connecticut State Med. J., 12, 1111 (1948); Abstr. World Med., 6, 269 (1949).]
 The effects of curare (I) and of neostigmine (singly or together) on the reflexes, spasticity,

and clonus in 21 neurological cases are described. Animal experiments indicate that the maximum action of (I) is subcortical, probably involving the motor centers of the brain stem. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.) Twenty-seven references.

The Neuromuscular and Ganglionic Blocking Action in Man of Bis(trimethylammonium) Decane (Diiodide) and Bis(trimethylammonium) Pentane Diiodide. Grob, D., et al. [Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp., 84, 279 (1949); cf. C.A., 45, 4837h.] The first drug gives muscular relaxation, the second is a ganglionic blocking agent. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Comparative Depression of Several Short-acting Barbiturates and Spirobarbiturates. Lee, Woo Choo. [Japan. J. Pharmacol., 2, 123 (1953).] Spiro (2'-ethyl-3', 5'-dimethylcyclopentane) barbituric acid (I) and its thio analog (II)

produced a satisfactory hypnotic and anesthetic effect in rats and rabbits. The duration of action of both was the same. (II) Had a shorter duration of action than thiopental and surital and (1) had a shorter duration of action than pentobarbital and secobarbital. The thiobarbitu-ric acid derivatives were longer acting than their nonthio analogs in growing rats. RICHARD F. RILEY (Chem. Abstr.)

Cure of Chronic Alcoholism by Apomorphine. Feldmann, H. [Sem. hôp. Paris, 29, 1481 (1953).] Apomorphine has in addition to its emetic effect an influence on the diencephalic emotivity, affectivity, nutritive, and impulsion centers as demonstrated by experiments with GEO. SAG (Chem. Abstr.) cats.

The Effect of Cortisone and Deoxycorticosterone on Metrazole Convulsions in Mice. Leonard, Charles A., et al. [J. Am. Pharm. Assoc., 42, 442 (1952).]

Pretreatment with cortisone and deoxycorticosterone does not significantly affect razole-induced convulsions in mice. DAVID B. SABINE (Chem. Abstr.) metrazole-induced convulsions in mice.

Stimulants of the Chemoreceptors and Blood-brain Barrier. Winterstein, Hans and Gokhan, Nurnn. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs. Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 219, 192 (1953).] Chemoreceptor stimulants such as NH₄Cl (H ions), lobeline, and NaCN lose their stimulating action on the respiration after extirpation of the carotid sinus receptors because they do not pass the blood-spinal fluid barrier. They regain their action by introduction into the 4th ventricle. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Action of Alcohol, Acetone, Ether, and Chloroform on the Chemoreceptors of the Glomus

 Action of Alconol, Actione, Ether, and Chicogorm on the Chemoreceptors of the Glomus Caroticum. Landgren, S., et al. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 219, 185 (1953).]
 Injections of EtOH, Me₂CO, Et₂O, or CHCl₃ in Ringer solution into the carotid artery of cats cause an augmentation of the action potentials of the sinus nerves elicited by the chemoreceptors. Atropine, d-tubocurarine, hexamethonium, and NH₃ inhibit the potentials partially or completely. This suggests that the narcotics used increase the chemical impulses in the definite of the schedure transformed and the schedure transformed and the schedure of the schedur in the glomus by inhibition of the cholinesterases. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Effects of Injection into the Cerebral Ventricles of the Dog. Central Action of the Compound. Cathala, H. P., and Pocidalo, J. [J. Compt rend. soc. biol., 146, 1709 (1952); cf. C.A.,

47, 765b.] Injection of 2 mg./kg. into the cerebral ventricle produced profound narcosis lasting 1-2 hours, hypothermia, and complete absence of hypertensive response to stimulation of the primary carotid arteries. L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

Correlation of the Uptake of Dye by the Mouse Brain with the Action of Strychnine. Romanov, S. N. [Doklady Akad. Nauk. S.S.S.R., 89, 753 (1953).] Generally the resistance of the animal to strychnine bears a reciprocal relation to the ability of its brain to take up neutral red. Stimulation (electric) of peripheral nerves enhances this to be which dealine the activities the balance of the structure of the struct this uptake, which decline to a minimum in 1 hour, then rises to a sharp maximum at 2 hours (reaching control level), declines to a minimum at 3-4 hours (which is higher than the 1st minimum) and rises to another maximum near control level at 5 hours. The resistance to strychnine (0.002 mg. per g. of body weight) in respect to onset of convulsions and time of death, plotted against time after nerve stimulation as above gave a picture that is substantially a mirror image of the uptake of neutral red. The animals given strychnine during the 2nd min. of dye uptake survived. G. M. KOSOLAPOFF (Chem. Abstr.)

Analgesic Power and the Question of Acute Tolerance to Narcotics in Man. Beecher, Henry K.,
 [J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap., 108, 158 (1953).]
 Repeated injections, at intervals of several hours, were made in patients having surgical

pain. No evidence was found of the development of acute tolerance to the analgesic action of morphine, *l-a-acetylmethadol*, heptazone, 6-methyldihydromorphine, and metopon, either in terms of loss of effectiveness or in shortening of the effective period.

L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

Comparison of Maximal Seizures Evoked by Pentylenetetrazole (Metrazole) and Electroshock in Mice, and their Modification by Anticonvulsants. Goodman, L. S., et al. [J. Pharmacol. Exptl. Therap., 108, 168 (1953).] The type of convulsions produced by each method is discussed and the modifying and

protective effects of tridione, paradione, phenobarbital, mebaral, phenurone, dilantin,

mesantoin, and thiantoin are described. The first 5 drugs are more potent against metrazole than against electroshock, and the last 3 are more potent against electroshock.

L. E. GILSON (Chem. Abstr.)

Comparison of Anticonvulsant Glycerol Ethers. Ginzel, K. H. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs. Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 212, 331 (1951).] Myanesin, myocaine (1) and 2 homologs of (1) given orally or intraperitoneally protect mice against lethal doses of metrazole and strychnine. The average protective doses are within the subparalytic range. With (1) the difference between protective and paralyzing dose is largest. All substances have a hemolytic effect which is smallest with (1). The point of attack is central. Neuromuscular block occurs with sublethal doses only. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Injections with Pure Glutamic Acid. Kergl, Ernst. [Med. Monatsschr., 7, 1516 (1953).] The favorable effects of glutamic acid on the nervous system were obtained more rapidly and more conspicuously. An injection contained 1.5 g. glutamic acid and 0.15 g. glycine in $10 \text{ cc. } H_2O.$ A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Warburg's Theory of Narcosis. Rumme., Walter. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs. Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 212, 177 (1951).]

The O consumption of human erythrocytes with cysteine-HCl(I) as activator in phosphate buffer of pH 7.4 and the influence of ethylurethan (II) were determined. At concentrations of (II) which were capable of causing total inhibition of respiration, the addition of (I) restored normal O absorption. Since the concentration of (II) was about 100 times that of (I) a molecule competition seems to be out of the question. The possibility of changes in the dielectric medium is discussed. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Electroencephalic Analysis of the Mutual Influence of Narcotic and Analeptic Drugs. Driesen, Wilhelm, et al. [Naunyn-Schmiedebergs. Arch. exptl. Pathol. Pharmakol., 212, 243 (1951).]

The cortical potentials in the cat inhibited by barbiturates were restored by metrazole (1). Coramine also causes suppression of the potentials which is reversed by (1). (1) Has only a mild restorative effect in Et₂O anesthesia. Convulsive discharges appear early. Coramine has no influence on the encephalogram in anesthesia and convulsive doses do not cause spastic discharges. (1) Also causes early spastic discharges in chloralose anesthesia. Conclusion: (1) and barbiturates have their point of attack in the brain stem, chloralose and Et₂O act on the cortex. A. E. MEYER (Chem. Abstr.)

Urinary Colloidal Proteins during Electroshock Therapy. Gomirato, G., and Beghelli, G. [Boll. soc. ital. patol., (1), 218 (1950).]

In 15 patients with depressive syndromes the colloidal protein content of urine averaged 15.02 and 66.95 mg. per cent. respectively, before and after 9 electroshock applications. C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Potassium Permanganate in the Treatment of Status Epilepticus. Repin, N. I. [Nevropatol. i Psikhiat., 17, No. 2, 67 (1948).]

Of 600 cases of epilepsy given extensive biochemical investigation, about 30 were cases of status epilepticus (1). Intravenous injections of 20 ml. of O 1 per cent. KMnO₄ invariably terminated attacks of (1), often in 5-10 minutes. Results are attributed to an increased supply of O absorbed on erythrocytes, leading to oxidation of products of incomplete metabolism. Adsorbed Mn ions may also catalyze oxidation processes. The water in the injection has a hemolytic effect causing dispersion of colloids of plasma and of formed elements in the blood. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Peculiar Cerebral Lesions Caused by Depot Insulin in Dogs. Tobel, Friedabert. [Arch. Psychiat. Nervenkrankh., 180, 569 (1948).]

Cerebral changes produced in dogs and man by overdosage of insulin are described. The vulnerability of depancreatized animals to depot insulin is attributed to a profound alteration of metabolism including disturbed phosphorylation of hexose in the brain.

W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Antagonism between Succinic Acid and Barbituric Drugs. (I) Experimental Research on the Time of Narcosis, Respiration, and Blood Circulation. Zoboli, P. [Acta anesthesiol. (Padua), 2, 443 (1951).]

In dogs treated with hypnotic or toxic Na pentothal doses, the administration of succinic acid was scarcely efficient against the cardiovascular and respiratory collapses caused by the intoxication, and also inefficient in breaking or considerably shortening the barbituric narcosis.

(II) Electrocardiographic Research. Zoboli, P., and Dal Co. C. [Ibid., 449.] No changes of the electrocardiogram, as influenced by Na pentothal, were observed after succinic acid administration, even at high doses.
 C. SCANDURA (Chem. Abstr.)

Anticonvulsant and Growth-inhibitory Effects of Some Organophosphorus Compounds. Ramaswami, Dasu and Kirch, Ernst R. [J. Am. Pharm. Assoc., Sci. Ed., 42, 495 (1953).1

The anticonvulsant action on mice (measured in terms of protection against electroshock and metrazole) and the selective inhibitory effect on germination of oat and yellow charlock seeds were tested in a series of dialkyl anilidophosphates in comparison with phenylurethan. In the series, dipropyl and dibutyl anilidophosphates were the most potent and the latter the most toxic. The regularity of the specific biological activity in the series is apparently due to their structural pattern with the -PONH group as the nucleus.

DAVID B. SABINE (Chem. Abstr.)

Experimental Study of the Neurotoxicity of Isoniazid and Its Prevention. Cahn, J., et al. [Thérapie, 8, 62 (1953).]
In albino rats of 120-150 g. the LD₅₀ of isonicotinic hydrazide, administered by intramuscular, intravenous, intraperitoneal, or subcutaneous route was 400-450 mg./kg. Simultaneous administration of antihistaminics did not significantly affect the lethal dose, but amobarbital 20 and 40 mg./kg. increased it, respectively to 825 and 1050 mg./kg. GEO. SAG (Chem. Abstr.)

Death Due to Withdrawal of Barbiturates. Fraser, H. F., et al. [Ann. Internal Med., 38, 1319 (1953).] JOHN T. MYERS (Chem. Abstr.)

Excitant Action of Acetylcholine and Other Substances on Cutaneous Sensory Pathways and its Prevention by Hexamethonium and D-tubocurarine. Gray, W. W., and Gray,

J. A. B. [J. Physiol., 119, 118-28 (1953).] Intraarterial (i.a.) injection of 0.2 ml. of 10^{-5} g./ml. acetylcholine (I) into the skin of chloralose-anesthetized (100 mg./kg.) cats produced an outburst of centripetal action potentials. Intravenous (i.v.) skin injections of decamethonium (150-500 $\gamma/kg.$) did not diminish the sensory excitant action of injected (I) or depolarize the motor end-plates; similar results were obtained for atropine (1-4 mg/kg.) in smooth muscle. Ciba 7337, a sympathetic nerveending blocking agent (i.v., 5 mg./kg.), prevented pilomotor response of cat's tail tuft of hair as well as the sensory discharge (II) on close i.a. injection of (I) or of adrenaline (III). Effects of i.a. injection of (I) could not be mimicked by i.a. injection of (III) (in concentrations up to 10⁴ g./ml.). These data indicate that the (II) produced by Ia. Injection of (II) (in Concentrations up to 10° g./ml.). These data indicate that the (II) produced by (I) is due to direct action on the sensory pathway. Close i.a. injection of nicotine and α -lobeline (0·2 ml. of 10° g./ml.) also produced (II). Hexamethonium (IV) (i.v., 20 mg./kg.) and d-tubocurarine (V) (i.a., 0·2 ml. of 10° g./ml.) prevented initiation of (II) by close i.a. injection of (I), but failed to block the responses to injected 1·2 per cent. KCl or to touch; (IV) and (V) do not exert their effects by blocking conduction in sensory nerves, but act similarly, to (I), nicotine, and α -lobeline.

MORRIS ROCKSTEIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Blood Proteins under the Influence of Electroshock. Bornschein, H., and Auerswald, W. [Wien. Z. Nervenheilk., 2, 164 (1949).] The serum proteins (I) and hemoglobin (II) were determined before and for 60 minutes

after electroshock in physically fit but psychotic patients. In agreement with Delay (I) increased to a maximum 2-5 minutes after the start of shock, then declined below initial values. Individual differences in initial (I) were related to muscular activity. The theory that increased (I) is mainly due to muscular convulsion was confirmed by experiments on dogs with and without curare. In a patient whose poliomyelitic paralysis prevented clonic convulsions, (I) increased only very slightly. (II) Regularly showed an increase, then a rapid fall to normal levels within 7.5 minutes. Curare did not modify these changes in (II). All plasma-protein fractions were equally involved in the increases in (I), which were associated with increased viscocity, n, and total N. There were no direct connections between the changes in (I) and in (II), the latter probably being produced by a central diencephalic mechanism, not by muscular activity.

W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Acute Severe Barbiturate Intoxication. Kirkegaard, A. [Ugeskr. Laeger, 111, 356-60 (1949).] The chemical properties and pharmacological effects of barbiturates are discussed, as well as the treatment of overdosage. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Hypertensive Encephalopathy and Cerebral Arteriosclerosis. Russek, H. I., and Zohmna, B. L. [N.Y. State J. Med., 49, 1411 (1949).] Caudal anesthesia with metycaine reduced the arterial pressure (I) in 4 cases of cerebral

arteriosclerosis for several hours. Although (I) was rendered almost normal, cerebral com-plications (such as convulsions and paralysis) were unaffected. Increased (I) represents a compensatory mechanism. The use of antispasmodics such as papaverine is more justifiable than attempts to decrease (I). W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

The Barbiturate Test in Normal Individuals and in Patients with Organic Disease of the Nervous System. Sercl, Mir. [Neurol. a Psychiat. Ceskoslovenská, 12, 102 (1949).] Healthy, neurologically normal subjects (I) 8 hours after taking 0:3-0:4 g. phenobarbital

(II) usually show a bilateral syndrome of cerebellum (III) deficiency, with horizontal nystagmus

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in all cases. In persons under 30 there is also a vertical nystagmus in most cases. Other signs (which are described) are sometimes present, but a unilateral syndrome originating from the (III) is never shown. Nevertheless, except for certain tracts, (II) has little action on the (III) but acts mainly upon cellular tracts in the mesencephalon (IV). Confirmatory evidence is the fact that in fatal poisoning, (II) is mainly concentrated in the (IV). In patients with posterior fossa lesions, neurological signs from the action of (II) on the (III) are more pronounced. With lesions in the (IV) the signs are strongly pronounced, and are of value in diagnosis. The effects of prolonged intake of (II) in modifying the signs are discussed. Many references. W. C. TOBIE (Chem. Abstr.)

Comparative Effects of Analeptics and Multivitamin Preparations on Reflex Activity of the Central Nervous System in Anemic Frogs. Kudrin, A. N. [Farmakol, i Toksikol., 16, No. 3, 24 (1953).]

Frogs were given 0.5 ml. 1 per cent. caffeine-NaOBz solution, 0.4-0.5 ml. 0.01 per cent. picrotoxin, 0.5 ml. 0.5 per cent. coramine, 0.2-0.5 ml. 0.01 per cent. strychnine, or 0.5-1 ml. of a multivitamin preparation 30-50 minutes before inducing anemia by aortal ligature. Picrotoxin and coramine fortified the central nervous system against anemic paralysis; the others did not. Caffeine and strychnine, in after-treatments, accelerated recovery from the anemia paralysis; the vitamins had no effect in either case. The analeptics, in descending order of efficacy against anemia paralysis, are: picrotoxin, coramine, caffeine, strychnine. JULIAN F. SMITH (Chem. Abstr.)

Effect of Metrazole Shock on Adrenal Glands. Pekkarinen, A., et al. [Acta Endocrinol., 6, 257 (1951)

Metrazole (I) shock was administered to rabbits by injecting 45-60 mg. (I) in 10 per cent. solution into the ear vein every other day for 3 weeks. During treatment the weight of the adrenal glands decreased 26 per cent.; the adrenaline increased 25 per cent., ascorbic acid 38 per cent., and cholesterol 121 per cent. Liver glycogen increased 30 per cent., spleen cholesterol 20 per cent. The weight of the spleen was reduced 15 per cent.; body weight and other organs remained practically unchanged. K. SCHOEN (Chem. Abstr.)

The Effect of Ion Exchange Resin in Epilepsy. Sheppe, Wm. M., et al. [Trans. Am. Neurol.

Assoc., 77, 17 (1952).] The K and NH, form of a cross-linked polyacrylic (carboxylic) cation exchange resin (1), given in daily dosage of 45 mg. with a 1,000 mg. Na diet to patients with severe epilepsy, rendered the electroencephalogram normal in 10 days. During (1) administration, the patients showed marked reduction in urinary Na and K, no change in serum Na, a slight decline in serum K, no change in CO₂ combining power or chloride or urea content of the blood, and an increased urine volume. MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Effects of Adrenocorticotropic Hormone (ACTH) and Cortisone in Multiple Sclerosis, Glaser, Gilbert H., and Houston Merritt, H. [Trans. Am. Neurol. Assoc., 76, 130 (1951).]

Among 33 patients with multiple sclerosis treated with ACTH sometimes followed by cortisone, 36 per cent. showed general but transitory improvement, without curative changes. Decreases and increases in cerebrospinal fluid protein, including y-globin, accompanied treatment in some cases. Generalized asthenia sometimes appearing during therapy was not associated with lowered serum K but was occasionally relieved by KCl.

MARION HORN PESKIN (Chem. Abstr.)

Synthetic Anticonvulsants. 1. Pharmacological Properties of 3-(2'-methylphenoxy) Propane-1, 2-diol and 3-(2'methoxyphenoxy) Propane-1, 2-diol. Omiya, Teruo. [Folia Pharmacol. Japon., 49, No. 2, 112 (1953); Breviaria, 12).]

The muscle-relaxing and anticonvulsant activities against convulsions induced by strychnine, picrotoxin, and metrazole were comparatively studies with 3-(2'-methylphenoxy) propane-1, 2-diol (myanesin) (1) and 3-(2'-methoxyphenoxy) propane-1, 2-diol (myanesin) (1) and 3-(2'-methoxyphenoxy) propane-1, 2-diol (hustosil) (II) in mice. The PD₅₀ (50 per cent. paralyzing dose) and LD_{50} (both per 10 g.) were, respectively: (1) 0.98 mg., 4.85 mg.; (II) 2.54 mg., 11.7 mg. (I) Inhibited the convulsion induced by strychnine with twice its PD₅₀. (II) Had lesser action. To the convulsion by picrotoxin, both (1) and (1) had weaker actions the latter being eligibility stronger (II) leibilitied the convulsion induced by (I) and (II) had weaker actions, the latter being slightly stronger. (II) Inhibited the convulsion by metrazole, with small administration while (I) was much weaker, suggesting that the difference is qual. Both (I) and (II) were hardly anticonvulsant to caffeine and camphor; but previous administration of a minute convulsant dose of the latter notably augmented and made longer the paralyzing action of (I) but not of (II). Against convulsion by benadryl (I) had no action.

II. Pharmacological Properties of Phenyl Glucosides. [Ibid., 119; Breviaria, 13.] The PD₅₀ and LD₅₀ were: o-toyl-α- 3·12, 11·2: β-2·4, 8·5; guaiacol-α- 10·1, 27·0; β-glucoside 16·6, 25·0 mg./10 g. mice. α-Glucosides were more active in muscle relaxing than β -glucosides and with less severe side effects. Effects of these glucosides were somewhat delayed. The degrees of relaxation did not always parallel the doses. The 2 above α -glucosides, in large amount, inhibited the convulsion by metrazole, but β -glucosides did not. All the glucosides above did not have anticonvulsant action against strychnine and picrotoxin. The significance of the glycerol group in (I) and (II) in muscle-relaxing and anticonvulsant actions was discussed. SHOZABURO KITAOKA (Chem. Abstr.)

Action of the Adrenocorticotropic Hormone (ACTH) on the Electrical Activity of the Brain. Monnier, Marcel. [Rev. méd. Suisse romande, 73, 511 (1953).]

ACTH causes modifications of the electrical activity of the rabbit brain which are defined as a function of the injected dose and of its duration of action. Early alterations consist in a thalamocortical activation and late modification consist in depression of electrogenesis which may be a prelude to the death of the animal.

MIREILLE CASTAMBIDE-ODIER (Chem. Abstr.)

Action of Diethylstilbestrol on the Hypothalamic Neurosecretion of the Female White Rat. Stutinsky, F. [Ann. endocrinol., 14, 101 (1953).] Injection of large doses of diethylstilbestrol increases the neurocytogenous secretion of the

hypothalamus and of the neurohypophysis. This phenomenon is morphologically revealed by Gomor's chromic hematoxylin. The histological modifications parallel the hyperproduction and hypersecretion of the antidiuretic hormone, whereas the oxytocic principle seems to be diminished in the neurohypophysis. Progesterone produces modifications of the histological aspect of the hypothalamus and neurohypophysis which are in every respect contrary to those engendered by injections of distilbene. MIREILLE CASTAMBIDE-ODIER (Chem. Abstr.)

The Action of Narcotic and Convulsive Agents on the Brain of Cold-blooded Animals Previously

The Action of Narcotic and Convulsive Agents on the Brain of Cold-blooded Animals Previously Treated with Acetylcholine. Muller-Limmroth, Heinz Wolf and Massmann, Helmut. [Pflugers Arch. ges. Physiol., 255, 379 (1952).]
 Frogs were injected intraperitoneally with high doses (0.005 mg./g.) of acetylcholine (I).
 A further injection 10 minutes later of 1 ml. 25 per cent. ethylurethan (II) or of 0.75 ml. of 0.1 per cent. strychnine (III) was injected into the lymph sac. After another 10 minutes, the frogs were decapitated and electroencephalographic tracings recorded. (I) Increased the fre-quency and the regularity of the waves. (II) Reduced the activity to a barely detectable level.
 (III) Increased both the frequency and the amplitude of the waves. The normal duration of bioelectrical activity of the brain from (I)-treated frogs was 26-27 minutes. With (I) plus (II), this was shortened to 3.5 minutes and with (I) plus (III), lengthened to 40 minutes. The normal brain K was 401 mg. per cent. The brain of (I)-treated frogs contained 373 mg. per cent. (I) plus (II) caused a fall to 305 mg. per cent. and (I) plus (III) produced a rise to 454 mg. per cent.