

Experimental and Clinical Colibacillary Catatonia [*La Catatonie colibacillaire expérimentale et Clinique*]. (*Ann. Méd. Psych.*, vol. xiv (ii), p. 449, Nov., 1933.)
Baruk, H.

Experimental work carried out on a series of animals (cats, mice, guinea-pigs and pigeons) by subcutaneous injection of the neurotropic *B. coli* toxin. The toxin produced either a pathological sleep or a catatonic syndrome characterized by negativism, aggressive impulse, perseveration of emotional expression and vegetative disorders. Controls were made with the injection of peptonized broth and of inactive toxin. There are also observations on the results of sero-therapy both in animals and in the human.
S. M. COLEMAN.

The Abnormal Excretion of Theelin and Prolan in Patients suffering from Migraine: A Preliminary Report. (*Bull. Neur. Inst. N.Y.*, vol. iii, p. 53, June, 1933.)
Riley, H. A., Brickner, R. M., and Kurzrok, R.

The authors have investigated the urine of 13 sufferers from migraine—11 females and 2 males. The presence or absence of theelin and prolan in the urine of the women and of prolan in that of the men has been studied. Theelin is an ovarian hormone excreted in the urine normally, and its amount can be biologically measured; prolan is an anterior pituitary hormone excreted during pregnancy or after menopause for two or three years in the urine of women. Prolan is also occasionally but not normally found in the urine of men.

A short history of each case is given, accompanied by a graph showing (a) excretion of theelin and prolan daily, (b) the occurrence of headache, (c) in the women, the days of the period. Each patient was kept under observation for four weeks or longer, so as to cover at least one complete menstrual cycle. In every case the period of study included a typical attack. The results showed that, in the women, the female sex hormone, theelin, was usually absent or present only in a much reduced quantity. Among the women, 29 headaches occurred during the period of observation. Twenty of these headaches were preceded by the appearance of prolan in the urine. Of the remaining 9, the test could not be adequately conducted in 7, owing to loss of specimen. In the other two instances the headache occurred without the antecedent appearance of prolan. In the records of the two males, in one a prolan-headache relationship was demonstrated; this was not always present in the other. The injection of follutein (a preparation containing prolan) caused a characteristic migraine attack in 7 out of 9 female cases.

The authors consider that the results indicate that the presence of prolan in the urine is definitely related to the occurrence of the migrainous attack, and that support is given to the hypothesis that ovarian and hypophysial activities are closely related to the occurrence of migraine, but more evidence is needed in the case of males before any conclusions can be drawn. Many factors, toxic, dietetic, etc., are known to excite attacks of migraine, and the authors suggest that all the causes act through some common mechanism, probably a pituitary hyperfunction or ovarian hypofunction, and that prolan itself plays an important role. That prolan may occur or be injected without causing an attack, as well as the fact of an interval between spontaneous appearance of prolan and onset of symptoms, suggests an additional, unknown factor.
J. L. FAULL.

Spirochæta Pallida in the Inguinal Glands of General Paralytics [*Spirochæta pallida nei gangli inguinali di paralitici progressivi*]. (*Riv. Sper. di Freniat.*, vol. lvii, p. 104, March, 1933.)
Ganfani, G.

The author examined the inguinal glands of twelve general paralytics by Levaditi's method. He found spirochætes in only two cases. In the juice from these glands examined by the method of Fontana-Tribondeau the author was unable to find spirochætes.
G. W. T. H. FLEMING.