

A Study of Leprosy in Brazil [Considérations sur la Lèpre au Brésil].
(*L'Encéph.*, November, 1927.) *Esposel, F.*

The author is of the opinion that leprosy must be regarded essentially as a nervous disease. He describes various nerve lesions, and remarks on the apparent fact that the meninges are rarely or never involved.

He concludes with some remarks on treatment; he has found encouraging results from the use of a colloidal preparation of a salt formed by the reaction of copper with the oil of an indigenous Brazilian plant, the "*Capotroche Brasiliensis*," discovered by Paulo Seabra.

R. S. GIBSON.

Nervous and Trophic Affections Resulting from the Taking of Veronal [Troubles nerveux et trophiques d'origine barbiturique].
(*L'Enceph.*, June, 1927.) *Claude, H., Lamache, A., and Daussy, H.*

In this article the authors describe a case of chronic poisoning with veronal. The chief point of interest is the addition of a typical peripheral neuritis to the characteristic symptoms of veronal poisoning. The possibility of associated alcoholism or any of the other ordinary causes was carefully excluded.

R. S. GIBSON.

Recent Atypical Forms of Epidemic Encephalitis [A propos de quelques Formes Atypiques Récentes de l'Encéphalite Epidémique].
(*L'Encéph.*, December, 1927.) *de Massary, J.*

In this article de Massary discusses atypical forms of encephalitis lethargica under three headings, sensory-motor, psychic, and forms affecting the sympathetic system and the endocrine glands. Under the sensory-motor heading he discusses a large variety of manifestations ranging from those in which pain is the prominent symptom to conditions which closely simulate such diseases as amyotrophic sclerosis and the myopathies.

Under psychic forms he describes numerous symptoms, usually associated with definite physical signs, and including confusion, mania, impulsive acts, moral and mental perversion, and a group which he regards as due to suggestion. In this connection he briefly discusses the neural basis of suggestion.

In dealing with the sympathetic system and the endocrine glands de Massary describes various vaso-motor disturbances and mentions symptoms which suggest disorders of secretion of the pituitary, thyroid, and sexual glands.

He considers that recent work on encephalitis compels us to abandon the idea that the midbrain is the sole, or even the main seat of the infective process, which must now be conceived as implicating the whole nervous system, peripheral as well as central.

It is only fair to add that de Massary admits frankly that future research may result in a complete re-classification of these symptom-groups, and that eventually the term epidemic encephalitis may have a much more restricted meaning than that in which he has used it.

R. S. GIBSON.