

*The Shellac Reaction on the Cerebro-spinal Fluid [La reazione della gomma lacca nel liquido cefalo-rachidiano]. (Il Cervello, vol. xl, May, 1932.) de Marco, A.*

The author used the shellac reaction as first described by Urechia and Danetz in 1923. He found the curve in general paralysis to be 321,000,000. The results were similar to those obtained by the gum-mastic reaction. A concentration of 8% of salt solution was used.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*A Contribution to the Citochol Reaction of Sachs-Witebsky [Contributo alla reazione (Citochol) di Sachs-Witebsky]. (Il Cervello, vol. xl, July, 1932.) Zara, E.*

The author carried out the citochol reaction of Sachs-Witebsky on 250 sera and 64 spinal fluids, and controlled his results with the Wassermann in the sera, and the Wassermann together with other reactions in the spinal fluid.

He concludes that this reaction may well be used as a complement to the Wassermann reaction in the sero-diagnosis of syphilis.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Cerebro-spinal Fluid in 230 Cases of General Paralysis after Malarial Treatment. (Journ. of Neur. and Psychopath., vol. xiii, Jan., 1933.) Reid, B.*

The author finds that the spinal fluid improves after treatment with malaria, and may become normal. This usually takes several years to occur. The improvement in the fluid occurs in patients who have improved mentally and also in those who do not improve.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*A Study of the Cerebro-spinal Fluid in General Paralytics Treated with Malaria [Estudio del Liquido Cefalo-Raquideo en los Paraliticos Generales Malarizados]. (University of Buenos Aires, 1932.) Kafer, J. P.*

This study is based on the investigation of 17 cases. The author distinguishes four periods, as a purely schematic arrangement: (1) A malarial period characterized by attenuation of the fluid pressure; (2) a primary post-malarial period, extending over the year after the cessation of fever, and characterized by attenuation of the pleocytosis; (3) a secondary post-malarial period, extending over the second year from the cessation of the fever, during which the attenuation of the pleocytosis is continued; (4) a later period, during which, in some cases, the reactions become normal.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

*Oxygen Consumption ("Basal Metabolic Rate") in Schizophrenia. (Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., vol. xxviii, Dec., 1932.) Hoskins, R. G.*

The author found the rate of oxygen consumption in 214 male schizophrenics of average age 30.2 years to be 88.3% of the standard normal. The rates for each sub-group were: catatonic 87.9%, hebephrenic 89.4%, paranoid 87.9%, simple 95.0% and indeterminate cases 88.8%.

The average lowest reading was 81.1%. The author considers that this more nearly represents the true basal rate than does the average mean rate (88.3).

The data reported offer no evidence as to whether the downward displacement of the rate is causative of, consequential to, concomitant with or integral in the psychosis proper.

The author found a polymodal distribution in all but the paranoid group, and thinks that this casts some doubt on the nosological homogeneity of these other groups.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*pH of Blood of Psychotics Measured by the Glass Electrode. (Biochem. Journ., vol. xxvi, No. 5, 1932.) Hurst, R. H.*

The author, using the glass electrode outfit described by Kerridge, found no significant difference of schizophrenics from the normal, either in the resting condition or in the early stages after alkali ingestion. As the result of exercise the