Exception for the associated fibrolipomatous tissue background no other mesenchymal structure was found in the several sections studied, neither was there any entodermal representation.

The Ovarian Tumour.—A month later, under general anaesthesia, laparotomy was performed. A spherical tumour, 6 in. in diameter, was found arising from the right ovary. This was removed and the patient had an uneventful post-operative period. It was a large ovoid tumour with a thick, whitish, opaque wall, cystic to the touch (Fig. 4). On opening the cyst, the true nature of the tumour was revealed by an outpouring of pultaceous, greasy, sebaceous material together with abundant strands of hair. The distinctive feature under the microscope was the presence of skin tissue and its appendages in the cyst wall. In addition, there were phagocytic leucocytes and foreign body giant cells in the wall.

No other ectodermal or mesodermal structure was encountered. There was no evidence of malignancy. The tumour was a benign cystic dermoid.

Summary

A case of lumbar intraspinal dermoid cyst associated with another dermoid cyst of the ovary is reported.

From a survey of the available literature, this is the first report of such a case.

Our thanks are due to Col. Sangam Lal, Professor of Surgery, Madras Medical College, who removed the ovarian tumour, and Dr. D. Govinda Reddy, Professor of Pathology, Madras Medical College, and to the Dean, Madras Medical College, for permission to publish this paper.

REFERENCES


THE MAY (1954) ISSUE

The May (1954) issue contains the following papers:—

Meningiomas within the Lateral Ventricle. A. E. Wall.
Memory Disturbances in Third Ventricle Tumours. Moyra Williams and Joe Pennybacker.
Variations with Age in the Number of Active Palmar Digital Sweat Glands. Pamela C. B. Mackinnon.
A Rare Presenile Dementia Associated with Cortical Blindness (Heidenhain’s Syndrome). A. Meyer, Denis Leigh, and C. E. Bagg.

Two Cases of Congenital Atresia of the Foramina of Magendie and Luschka. A. F. J. Maloney.
Autonomic Changes after Unilateral Leucotomy. Alick Elithorn, Malcolm F. Piercy, and Margaret A. Crosskey.
A Comparison of Isoniazid with Modified Insulin Therapy in Neurotic States. Maurice Silverman.
Rapidly Progressive Cerebral Degeneration (Subacute Vascular Encephalopathy) with Mental Disorder, Focal Disturbances, and Myoclonic Epilepsy. D. P. Jones and S. Nevin.

A number of copies are still available and may be obtained from the Publishing Manager, British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, price 12s. 6d.
With so many authors covering so wide a field the standard and style are bound to vary, but the average level is very satisfactory.


This is a new edition of a well-known book which, when first published 40 years ago, must have been thoroughly up to date. Many chapters are still most helpful to the student, and there is an excellent account of many aspects of the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the visual apparatus. From the neurologist's point of view, however, the book is disappointing. The recent work on supra-calcarine visual disorders is entirely ignored and indeed the important studies of Morris Bender (New York) and of Eberhard Bay (Heidelberg) are not even mentioned.

The illustrations of retinal disorders and of disturbance of ocular movements are few and are technically below present-day standards. Many well-known conditions, such as myasthenia gravis, traumatic lesions of the optic chiasma, wounds of the calcarine area, aneurysms of the cerebral arteries, central ocular palsies in poliomyelitis, muscular dystrophy affecting the ocular muscles, and hysterical disorders of vision and eye movements are inadequately considered.


The sub-title of this work might be translated as "Organization and Disorganization of the Personality from the Psychological, Paedagogical, Sociological, and Psychiatric Viewpoint". The theme of the study is "Besinnung," which may be literally translated as reflexion or deliberation, but is given a special meaning by the author. It is, in his conception, a superior psychic function, a state of self-reflexion, contemplation, and detachment all in one. This state, in which the personality takes account of itself, recollects and integrates past life, and formulates values for the future, is liable to interference from various sides. It is not attempted, for instance, by the unstable or the callous psychopath; it is disturbed or distorted in schizophrenia; and it is impossible of attainment in the case of some structural lesions of the brain, such as frontal tumour. The author believes that "Besinnung" is an important factor in the normal development of the child and adolescent. He criticizes modern mechanistic philosophies which neglect the value of contemplation and self-reflexion.

**BOOKS RECEIVED**


**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

_Symposium Neuroradiologicum_ The fourth Symposium Neuroradiologicum will be held in London from September 13 to 17, 1955. Radiologists, neurosurgeons, neurologists, and others interested will be most welcome. All wishing to contribute papers are invited to communicate as soon as possible with the Honorary Secretary, Dr. R. D. Hoare, at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, W.C.1.

_Sixth Latin-American Neurosurgical Congress_ The sixth Latin-American Neurosurgical Congress (Secretary-General Dr. R. Arana-Iniguez, Convencion 1287, Montevideo) will be held in Montevideo from March 21 to 24, 1955, together with the 2nd South-American Electroencephalographical Congress (Secretary-General, Dr. P. Pinto Pupo, San Pablo, Brazil). Intending visitors should apply before October 1, 1954.