Abstracts

Neurology

NEUROANATOMY AND NEUROPHYSIOLOGY


Retrograde degeneration, almost exclusively involving the macular region in the geniculate body, resulted from unilateral softening in the area striata affecting mainly the polar region. The fibres situated in the ventral part of the vertical peduncle in the optic radiation were degenerated. Thus, these fibres have to be considered as the fibres of central vision in the optic radiation. The case described favours a theory that the macular fibres are situated in the middle of the optic radiation and not in its dorsal part as Pfeifer had maintained.

M.

NEUROPATHOLOGY

[146] Clinical examination of the intestinal tract in cases of encephalitis lethargica relieved by atropine (Klinische Untersuchungen über das Verhalten des Magen-Darmkanals bei mit Atropin behandelten Encephalitikern).—H. FEHSENMEYER. Münch. med. Woch., 1935, 82, 1723.

SIEGMUND described important anatomical alterations observed at autopsy in cases of encephalitis lethargica which had been treated by atropine over long periods. The author of this paper reports clinical cases of this disease treated in the same way. She observed similar disturbances, and considers that a disturbance of the function of the autonomic nervous system results from Parkinsonism, the consequence being disordered gastric function. Sympatheticotonus became predominant by use of atropine and a permanently diminished mobility of the whole intestinal tract resulted. This means that atropine treatment per se is not to be regarded as the primary cause of the alterations in the intestinal tract observed by Siegmund as well as by Fehsenmeyer.

M.