[172] Systematised motor neuritis (La neurite sistematizzata motrice).—O. Rossi. _Rassegna clin.-scientif._, 1928, vi, 1.

A general discussion of the clinical features of so-called motor neuritis. Mention is made of the motor radial mononeuritis of lead palsy and its varieties and subdivisions; and of the motor polyneuritis of some cases of lead, malaria, and diphtheria. Other cases are etiologically obscure.

S. A. K. W.


A brief series of references to previous work on the subject is followed by an account of the examination of a personal case, that of a woman of 72 (reds 9,100,000 at their maximum). The patient was also arteriosclerotic and suffered from cancer of the uterus.

In the meninges were found small haemorrhages (chiefly pial), and in the brain diffuse oedema, with areas of cerebral softening of haemorrhagic origin. The vessels in these parts were distinctly less affected than others in seemingly normal regions, which exhibited arteriosclerotic and endarteritic change. A status marmoratus was found in the basal ganglia. Papilloedema was present during life, but its causation was not determined.

S. A. K. W.

PROGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.

[174] Cerebral arteriography and cranial hypertension (L’artériographie cérébrale et l’hypertension crânienne).—E. Moniz. _Revue neurol._, 1929, i, 1122.

[174] Three new cases of cure of cranial hypertension by intracarotid injections of sodium iodide (Trois nouveaux cas de cure, au moins provisoire, du syndrome d’hypertension crânienne par les injections intracarotidienes d’iodure de sodium).—E. Moniz. _Revue neurol._, 1929, i, 1135.

In these two papers the author reports cases in which pronounced amelioration of the general symptoms of rise of intracranial pressure took place in consequence of intracarotid injections of sodium iodide for purposes of arteriography. Headache disappeared, and in one or two instances improvement in vision unmistakably occurred, though transient. It is especially in cases of serous meningitis that such change for the better is remarked and it may persist indefinitely. He believes it possible to diagnose the latter condition arteriographically when the arteries of the Sylvian group are not visible in the first part of their course; on the other hand the condition may occur in regions not, as a rule, capable of examination by this particular technique.
[175] Arterial encephalography in cases of cerebral tumour (L'épreuve de l'encéphalographie artérielle dans le diagnostic de quatre cas de tumeurs cérébrales opérées).—E. Moniz, A. Pinto, and A. Lima. Presse méd., 1929, April 17, no. 31.

Continuing his researches on arterial encephalography by the technique previously described (see this JOURNAL, vol. ix, p. 247), Moniz and his collaborators report four cases of cerebral tumour successfully operated on, in which series two were without any localising symptom or sign. Study of the arteriogram proved to be of direct service in localisation. The value of the method in selected cases seems undeniable.

J. V.

Endocrinology.


The endocrine glands are the dominant factors in determining bodily structure. Psychiatrists should bear in mind that the correlation between structure and function long noted by physiologists includes both mental and physiological functioning. Disturbances in glandular function may lead to abnormal conduct reactions either directly or indirectly: directly, as in cretinism, where the lack of thyroid secretion is responsible for the mental retardation; indirectly, as in those cases in which as a result of physical malformation, such as midgets and giants, the individual develops abnormal mental attitudes and personality traits which make normal social adjustments very difficult if not entirely impossible. The close relationship existing between endocrine disturbances and delinquency, incorrigibility, sexual perversion, crime and other antisocial states has been demonstrated in a sufficient number of cases to warrant the statement that no study of a child who presents a behaviour difficulty is complete without a thorough study of the glands of internal secretion.

C. S. R.


The two cases reported are typical of the condition.

It is of interest that both had an extreme redness of hair and that one case had a deformity of the larynx comparable to that found in cases of congenital laryngeal stridor.

E. A. C.