the recorded cases does not permit any definite conclusion as to the worth or otherwise of Leyden's own conception, viz., that of a specific encephalo-myelitis. Dr. van Bogert considers that an infection or toxæmia may do no more than activate a virus already harboured without danger by the person concerned.

J. S. P.


From time to time records of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in which sensory changes have been found clinically appear in the literature. These are summarised by the author of this thesis, who adds five personal cases, some with pathological corroboration.

He notes that these changes may be both subjective and objective; they are usually discrete, not systematised, and involve all forms, both superficial and deep, in an irregular fashion. They can properly be correlated with pathological alterations in posterior columns and roots.

S. A. K. W.


The author describes the details of nine cases which he has collected. They corroborate in general fashion the conclusions which he had reached previously (see this Journal, vol. ix, p. 170). Binasal hemianopia is far more common in men than in women, and is usually seen in the prime of life. Other symptoms of any kind are often extraordinarily meagre, and there is no simple mark whereby it can be easily recognized; it has to be sought for. Its causes vary, and include ventricular tumour, syphilis of the base, and arteriosclerosis.

S. A. K. W.

PROGNOSIS AND TREATMENT.


Arch. of Neurol. and Psychiat., 1931, xxvi, 102.

The author finds that sulphur in olive oil, when injected into the muscles of the outer part of the thigh, produces a high fever, lasting from thirty-six to sixty hours, with variable elevation in the pulse rate, a vasomotor and a diaphoretic response less marked than in fever from typhoid vaccine,
a marked polymorphonuclear leucocytosis and other less important physiological changes. Local pain and tenderness at the site of injection, while present, are not particularly troublesome to the average patient with dementia paralytica. Experimental injections of suspensions of sulphur in oil and sulphur in acacia-saline solution into the rabbit's leg show a marked localized necrosis with an acute inflammatory reaction which is finally resolved.

This work tends to show that the fever and other changes following the injection of sulphur intramuscularly result from the breaking down of muscle tissues into fragments which, when absorbed, cause a so-called protein reaction. Fever produced by injections of sulphur seems capable of effecting the same therapeutic results that any other form of fever can produce. It is chiefly of value in cases of dementia paralytica in which malaria is indicated, and in many ways is superior to malaria, especially in the hands of the average physician.

R. M. S.

Psypopathology.

NEUROSES AND PSYCHONEUROSES.


The author points out that compulsion disease is becoming much commoner and that hysteria, anxiety neurosis and neurasthenia are becoming rare. He attributes the latter group of illnesses to the repression of sex impulses in the individual and considers that this is also becoming much less common than it used to be. The compulsion disease he defines as a condition in which the patient is confronted with the formula, 'If I don't do this something awful will happen.' His analysis, of which examples are given, leads him to think that this situation is due to the fact that the present adolescent is brought up in the old-fashioned strict moral code but that nowadays the parent does not him or herself submit to this code. The compulsion neurosis arises when the youth of either sex discovers the discrepancy between the code and the conduct of their parents. The author proceeds to argue that prolonged and deep analysis is not necessary or desirable but that once the faulty attitude of the patient is unmasked and he understands the symbolic nature of the symptom he should be taught or persuaded to give it up.

R. G. G.