

Among the other cases the ages of admission and death were widely separated, as well as the ages of onset and admission. They belong either to those mild cases which gradually deteriorate until they are finally sent to the hospital, or which recover there from an acute attack but not sufficiently to be free again. The causes of death here were found to be varied, but in all there had been clinical evidence of tuberculosis, or at autopsy there was anatomical evidence either existent at death or previously. As far as clinical symptoms could be correlated with active mental symptoms these cases tend to show that the latter become active during the active progress of tuberculosis or subside when the latter process abates. The course of the physical symptoms in general is marked by a similar course in mental symptoms. Of course, it was not possible to anatomically locate the traces of older lesions to correspond in time with former mental disturbance, but clinical evidence of such correlation was available.

The writer believes that "special complement fixation tests on the blood and spinal fluid and special cultural methods applied to such cases should yield a large proportion of positive results and give us an added advantage in early diagnosis."

Laroche, G., and Richard, G. LOW BLOOD PRESSURE IN IDIOCY. [*Ann de Med.*, May, 1919.]

Microsphygmia seems to be almost the rule in feeble-mindedness. The mechanism and causes seems to lie in a hypertony of the sympathetic nervous system.

Graves, T. C. RESPONSE TO CALCIUM IN MANIACAL STATES. [*British Medical Journal*, April 5, 1919.]

Graves tried the administration of 0.6 gram of calcium lactate by mouth three times daily with food in a series of patients showing various degrees of excitement. He observed that there was a marked reduction in the excitement noticeable within the first twenty-four hours of treatment, the acute mental symptoms being alleviated without the production of stupor which is so common following the use of most of the sedatives. In the majority of patients the circulation has also been markedly improved and an intercurrent diarrhea promptly checked. No untoward effects have been observed.

Graves, T. C. PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE RESPONSE TO CALCIUM SHOWN IN MANIACAL STATES.

The action of the drug became evident at least during the twenty-four hours following its exhibition. The acute mental symptoms were alleviated without the production of the stupor so commonly observed resultant from the action of the "sedative" drugs—if, indeed, they produce any effect at all in many cases. The circulatory response has