Current Literature

I. VEGETATIVE NEUROLOGY

I. SYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM

Guillaume, A. C. THE VAGOSYMPATHETIC REFLEXES. [Presse Médicale, August 21, 1920.]

The author calls attention to the great importance of the vegetative reflexes. They are profoundly altered in numerous pathologic conditions. The pituitary seems to be a special target for vegetative nervous reflex anomalies. With the aid of the oculo-cardiac and similar reflexes deeper insight may be obtained of many psychoses, neuroses, etc.

Bolten, H. SO-CALLED VAGUS NEUROSES. [Nederl. Tydschr. v. Geneeskunde, June 12, 1920.]

This author seeks to find an exaggerated sympathicotonia in many cardiac neuroses as a better explanation than a vagotonia. Congenital hypotonia of the sympathetic is the real cause, he believes. The congenital neuropathic constitution and the neuroses are due to a sub-standard vegetative nervous system, and this inferiority is most pronounced in the sympathetic portion of this system. With these neuroses (asthma, gout, urticaria, migraine, epilepsy, mucous colitis, intermittent hydrops of joints) there is a constitutional disturbance of the fermentative purin metabolism from sympathetic hypotonia.

Silvestri, T. ENDOCRINE FACTORS IN GASTRIC ULCER. [Policlinic, June 28, 1920.]

The author shows that pregnancy is an important factor to be valued in interpreting the results of experimental research on the relationships of adrenal action and gastric ulcer formation: Vagotonic let down, from operation or exhaustion favor ulcer formation.

Moro, E. ECZEMA AND THE VEGETATIVE NERVOUS SYSTEM. [Münch. med. Woch., May 28, 1920.]

Eczema in infants, according to Moro, should not be treated vigorously during the early months of the year. Thoroughgoing external treatment should be reserved for the summer or fall months, since the vegetative nervous system is very hyperexcitable in the early months of the year. He cites fifteen fatal cases in support of his view. Thirteen of the deaths occurred during the three-month period from February 1 to March 31, while only two occurred during the other nine months of the year.