Abelous, J. E., and Soula, L. C. THE CHOLESTERINOGENIC FUNCTION OF THE SPLEEN. [C. R. de l'Acad. des Sciences, 1920, CLXX, p. 619.]

In the course of a research on the action of secretion the writers found that injection of dilute hydrochloric acid into the duodenum leads to an increase of the amount of cholesterol in the arterial blood. This hypercholesterinæmia is not produced in splenectomized dogs or rabbits, nor after previous ligation of the splenic hilum. Indeed, there is often a hypocholesterinæmia. But the blood of the splenic vein contains more cholesterol than the arterial blood. Further, there is always more cholesterol in the blood of the splenic vein than in that of the sub-hepatic veins. In all their experiments the writers used Grigaut's method of extraction of cholesterol. They record some experiments *in vitro* in demonstration of their conclusion that cholesterol is formed in the spleen. The spleen has a much greater cholesterolinogenic function than the liver and the adrenals. [Leonard J. Kidd, London, England.]

2. ENDOCRINOLOGY.

Kretschmer, Ernst. FAMILIAL ENDOCRINOPATHIES. [Zeitschr. f. d. ges. Neurol. u. Psychiat., Vol. XLVI, p. 79.]

In a family that fell under the author's observation he discovered a congenital condition of somatic and psychic degeneration which affected principally the male members and seemed to be directly inherited from father to son. The manifestations were as follows: eunuchoidism (small testicles, long limbs, imperfect junction of epiphysis, small skull, flat occiput), acromegalic development of nose, hands and feet, changes in the sella turcica (perceptible without Roentgen picture), disturbances of the heart vessels (variability of the pulse frequency, arteriosclerosis), dermatographia, venous spasms, lymphocytosis, psychic inferiority, arthropathies with selective affection of the vertebral column and knee joints. There was also a peculiar disease of the muscles which in the loin musculature could be regarded as pseudohypertrophy with fatty formations, and in the rest of the body, especially in the shoulder region, as muscular hypertrophy without increase of function. This condition, in the center of which stands the testicle hypophysis complex, is probably to be interpreted as a polyglandular syndrome, because it can be directly referred in part to known endocrine disturbances and, for the rest, can be understood as due to such disturbances. [J.]

Gutman, J. THE DUCTLESS GLANDS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DIAGNOSIS. [Med. Rec., April 3, 1920.]

In this presentation the author calls attention to the necessity of studying the individual from the constitutional standpoint and not merely from the morphological one. He refers to the dependency of pathologic syndromes upon the constitutional habitus of the individual affected, and