often impossible to obtain the history from the relatives or friends, and the study of the symptoms other than mental is extremely difficult, on account of the mental condition of the patient. He thought that the importance of the clinical laboratory was greater than that of the pathological laboratory. Psychiatrists should study their cases from the standpoint of neurology and internal medicine. A complete visceral study should be made, just as there should be a complete study of the nervous and mental manifestations. It not infrequently happens that the mental affection is the result of some internal or general disease, and not a primary disease of the nervous system.

The President said that the necessity of increased study of mental disease is apparent, and all had listened with great pleasure to the remarks of Dr. Paton bearing upon that point. The union of clinical and pathological study is very important. In parietic dementia, which possibly has been better studied pathologically than any other mental disease, the pathology is not fully known, but there are some who from the pathological condition alone are willing to make a diagnosis. He was not inclined to believe that all the causes of mental diseases could be revealed by the microscope. There is probably much more in mental diseases than can be discovered by a study of the pathological conditions alone. The brain is very susceptible to various substances and probably certain alterations cannot be detected by the microscope. Physiological chemistry may be of service in the study of mental affections, and probably some of the mental symptoms produced by the infectious fevers are the result of chemical changes.

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- 90 ACROMEGALIE ET DEGENERESCENCE MENTALE (Acromegaly and Mental Degeneracy). F. Farnarier (Nouvelle Incon. de la Salpêtrière, Sept., Oct., '99).

This article is the result of the study of hereditary antecedents, psychical symptoms, the neuroses and the stigmata of degeneracy found in cases of acromegaly. The case quoted is a typical case of this disease with the curious complication of epilepsy and a condition approaching dementia. The author does not believe that this case can be explained by mere coincidence, but that degenerative states are very favorable for the development of acromegaly. A view of all cases in literature from this point of view is noted under the heads of heredity, diseased condition of character and intelligence, psychoses and neuroses. A résumé of the facts derived from this study are as follows: Nervous and mental diseases are frequently found in the families of individuals suffering from acromegaly. The patients themselves often present diverse manifestations of degeneracy all the way from intellectual enfeeblement to complete dementia; from melancholic depression to the systematized ideas of persecution, and from psychical stigmata to microcephalic skull with idiocy. Hysteria and epilepsy are found associated with acromegaly, as is also diabetes. This conclusion is finally drawn by the author: The neuro-arthritis or vesanic heredity offers a favorable soil for the development of acromegaly. This in its turn by certain disturbances which it produces in the secretion of ductless glands, as the hypophysis, reacts upon the nervous system, already in a state of instability by the hereditary influences noted above. This determines, according to the individual predisposition, various mental or nervous affections, always, however, in relation to the state of degeneracy. A very complete bibliography is affixed to the article.

SCHWAB.