THE DURATION OF LIFE AFTER EXTENSIVE HEMORRHAGE OF THE BRAIN¹

By William G. Spiller, M.D.

Dr. Spiller said his experience had not justified a diagnosis of apoplexy in cases in which life has been terminated within fifteen to twenty minutes. He had taken thirteen specimens from the collection of pathologic conditions, in which extensive hemorrhage of the brain was found at necropsy. Many of these were from cases in his service at different hospitals; others were from cases in the service of Dr. Mills. In all instances life had been prolonged at least hours after the onset of the apoplexy, even when the hemorrhage was very extensive, had broken into the ventricles, and filled all the ventricles, even the fourth. In two cases of this kind life was prolonged several hours; in one about five hours, in the other eighteen to twenty hours.

Dr. S. D. Ingham said he had seen one case which had some bearing on this subject. A woman, perhaps 60 years of age, who had previously been in ordinary health, was suddenly stricken while alone in her kitchen. She was not seen within a few minutes of the time she became unconscious, but she had not been alone more than half an hour. She was found in a kneeling position as if she had fallen doing some of her household work. Dr. Ingham arrived at the house perhaps half an hour after she was found, during which time she had shown no sign of life. At that time she was cyanotic and getting cold and had undoubtedly been dead for sometime. At the autopsy which was performed the same day, the left ventricle was found entirely filled with blood clot. There was no other organic disease noted at the autopsy. The duration of life from the onset of the attack could not have been more than one hour and was probably considerably less. The left ventricle was entirely filled, the hemorrhage also extending into the other ventricles to a less degree.

Dr. S. Leopold read a paper on Sacral Tabes. (See this JOURNAL, p. 193.)

CHICAGO NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY

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DR. A. C. CROFTAN, in the Chair

FOUR CASES SHOWING SOME OF THE CARDINAL SYMPTOMS OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

By R. C. Hamill, M.D.

Dr. Hamill said in a preliminary way: he had some cases in which either diagnosis is not sure or the symptoms are unusual. All four patients are inmates of the Cook County Infirmary, at Dunning.

The first patient, T. D., 24 years old. Family history: Father died of tuberculosis; one brother, now 23 years old, has headaches with vomiting, possibly migraine.

¹The paper has been published in the Journal of the Amer. Med. Assoc., December 19, 1908.