Correspondence

Endocrinopathic Inheritance

To the Editor:—In an article on this subject (*THE JOURNAL*, May 6, 1916, p. 1438), Dr. Walter Timme analyzed a family history which apparently followed the mendelian laws of heredity. Timme concluded, on the basis of this analysis, that one may be able to forecast to some degree the characteristics of the offspring in certain marriages.

I enclose a chart drawn similarly of a family originating in the union of a diabetic man (No. 1) and normal woman (No. 2). There were seven children in this family, three of whom (Nos. 4, 7 and 8) were diabetic. The oldest in this family (No. 3) married a man with a large simple goiter, and from this union eleven children were born, all apparently normal; the ages of these range from 18 to 40 years. Six of these were married and gave rise to twelve children with abnormality in only one—a moderate obesity (No. 10). Of the remaining six individuals in the first family, five were married, giving rise to fourteen children in the second and one in the third generation, all of whom are apparently normal, their ages ranging from 3 to 33 years.

According to the conclusions of Dr. Timme, the family of No. 3 should offer a fruitful field for endocrinopathic inheritance; but in the total number of twenty-one individuals arising from this union in two generations, only a single abnormality arose, and that a slight one.

IRVING F. STEIN, M.D., Chicago.

Heredity chart.

The Effect of Adenotomy on the Hypophysis System

To the Editor:—The fact that after adenotomy, an operation which impinges on the periphery of the hypophysis system, the hypophysis system shows a strikingly increased activity in the direction of growth and development, is explained by the fact that the pharyngeal pituitary and probably the entire glandular portion of the pituitary system is stimulated through the excision of "adenoids." The anatomic explanation of relationship between the pharyngeal hypophysis, adenotomy and more rapid growth is the fact that the pharyngeal pituitary is located close to, if not actually in, the "adenoid" tissue. Further justification for this relationship is the well recognized axiom that following adenotomy, children immediately take on a greatly increased rate of growth.

The cases of retarded growth relieved by adenotomy suggest that the condition of "adenoids" inhibits the nutritional or developmental function of the pituitary system which we have come to understand as necessary for normal development.

In a former article (*Am. Jour. Med. Sc.*, July, 1914) I pointed out that the "adenoid" region is the part of the nasopharynx most assailable by infection, and that the angle of this region is the most vulnerable spot in the whole body. When, therefore, it is considered that the infections of this region not only have an influence on the organism in the shape of metastatic infections, but may involve the hypophysis system as well, the relation of "adenoids" and adenotomy to growth and normal well-being assumes vital importance.

W. SOHIER BRYANT, M.D., New York.

The Excesses of Youth.—The excesses of our youth are drafts on our old age, payable with interest, about thirty years after date.—Colton.

Queries and Minor Notes

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS and queries on postal cards will not be noticed. Every letter must contain the writer's name and address, but these will be omitted, on request.

LOCAL DENTAL ANESTHETIC

To the Editor:—What is your opinion of the following formula for use as a local dental anesthetic?

Cocain hydrochlorid, $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains.

Adrenalin, $\frac{3}{200}$ grain.

Hydrogen peroxid, 60 minims.

Before using add to three parts of this, solution of boiling water.

A. Is there any incompatibility between hydrogen peroxid and adrenalin?

B. Is there any formula preferable from the following points of view: (1) less toxicity; (2) greater anesthetic power; (3) comparable antiseptic power?

H. GRIGNON, M.D., St. Jovite, P. Q., Canada.

ANSWER.—A. Adrenalin (epinephrin) is readily decomposed by oxidizing agents. Hence it should not be mixed with hydrogen peroxid.

B. From 0.2 to 0.3 c.c. of 1:1,000 solution of epinephrin may be added to a solution of cocain for subcutaneous injection to delay absorption and prolong local anesthesia. Solutions of cocain hydrochlorid for subcutaneous injection vary in strength from 0.5 to 4 per cent. in the infiltration method, solutions of 1:1,000 in physiologic saline are

used in larger doses. Smaller amounts are used when solutions of 1:1,000 are employed. Novocain is usually said to be from one sixth to one tenth as toxic as cocain, but the toxicity of novocain depends strictly on the way in which it is administered. The subject is fully discussed in the *Pharmacology of Useful Drugs*, by Hatcher and Wilbert.

SCANDINAVIAN MEDICAL JOURNALS

To the Editor:—Please furnish me a list of medical journals published in the Scandinavian countries, Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

D. L. TILDERQUIST, M.D., Duluth, Minn.

ANSWER.—Following is a list of periodicals and the place of publication:

Allmänna svenska läkartidningen, Stockholm.
Bibliotek for Læger, Copenhagen.
Finska läkaresällskapets handlingar, Helsingfors.
Helsörännen, Stockholm.
Höspitalstidende, Copenhagen.
Hygiea, Stockholm.
Jordemodern, Stockholm.
Medicinsk Månadsrevy, Stockholm.
Medicinsk Revue, Bergen.
Nordisk Tidsskrift for Terapi, Copenhagen.
Nordiskt Medicinskt Arkiv, Stockholm.
Norsk Magazin for Lægevidenskaben, Christiania.
Norsk Tidsskrift for Militermedicin, Christiania.
Svenska Läkaresällskapets Handlingar, Stockholm.
Tidsskrift for den Norske Lægeforening, Christiania.
Tidsskrift for Jordemødre, Copenhagen.
Tidsskrift for den norske Lægeforening, Christiania and Copenhagen.
Tidsskrift i militär Helsevård, Stockholm.
Tidsskrift for Jordemødre, Christiania.
Ugeskrift for Læger, Copenhagen.
Upsala Läkareförenings Förhandlingar, Upsala.

DR. GROEDEL

To the Editor:—About a month ago I clipped from *THE JOURNAL* (Queries and Minor Notes, April 22, 1916, p. 1343) an inquiry concerning Dr. Groedel of Bad-Nauheim, and sent it to the doctor's brother. I am enclosing his reply.

SUMNER SHAILER, M.D., New York.

My Dear Doctor:—Referring to the clipping from *THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION*, I am very glad to report that I received a letter from my brother post-marked Munich, in which he stated that he, as well as his son, Dr. Franz Groedel, are enjoying the best of health. He further stated that he intended opening his sanatorium at Bad-Nauheim on the 20th of April. . . .

THEODORE GROEDEL.