

which the Royal Medical Society had studied. The report was dated October 22, 1918, and Sir William Osler, Dr. George Draper and Colonel James Newsholme were members of the committee. They first studied the cases from the point of view of botulism and found they could exclude it. They then considered the relationship of the condition to poliomyelitis but it was found to differ very materially; animal experiments were done but in no case did they get any picture resembling poliomyelitis. The condition was *sui generis* and differed from all analogous conditions.

There were many of these cases in New York at present. The distinguishing features were lethargy and all grades of encephalitis. This was an important and really infectious disease and the Neurological Society ought to do something as a body to study it. The speaker moved that a committee be appointed to get in touch with the Board of Health and make this a reportable disease, and also to go to the various hospitals and study these cases individually and in groups, and perhaps be successful in isolating the infectious agent, which was probably of the same nature or allied to the so-called influenza.

Dr. William Leszynsky said that he had seen a number of these cases of lethargic encephalitis accompanied by symptoms of polioencephalitis and that the prognosis was favorable. He nevertheless approved the move to appoint a committee to study the condition.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY

REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 19, 1918

DR. CHARLES G. DEWEY, Presiding

CYSTICERCUS RACEMOSUS (TAENIA SOLIUM) OF THE SPINAL CORD

DR. P. C. KNAPP presented a report of a case which had been operated upon after having been on the nerve service of the Boston City Hospital for some time. The patient was twenty-five years of age and had suffered since childhood with momentary periods of unconsciousness and dizzy spells and there were occasional convulsions. In the latter he bit his tongue. He reported also headache and aura. There had been in later years three or four attacks a year. An attack of the previous year, in which there had not been loss of consciousness, had been followed by a dead sensation of the right arm and leg and severe headache. For two years there had been several attacks of severe pain

on both sides of the chest. A little more than a year before numbness of the legs developed and intermittent pain and dyspnea were present. There were ataxia, and pains in the legs and shortly before coming under Dr. Knapp's care severe pain in the abdomen high up on the left side.

Examination showed exaggerated reflexes, double clonus and double Babinski. The abdominal and cremasteric reflexes were absent. Ataxia and astasia were present. The pupils were normal and the Wassermann test negative. Below the area of the fourth and fifth dorsal segments there was hypalgesia. There was tenderness over these vertebrae.

On March 5 a laminectomy of the fifth dorsal vertebra was done. At this level, there was discovered an irregular, translucent, cystic mass 5.5 by 1 cm. in size and the spinal fluid was under tension. The mass was enucleated and proved to be a cyst in which was found the *Taenia solium*. The patient was in a poor condition for a time and manifested a paraplegia with the neurological signs mentioned. Decubitus became extensive and the bladder was paralyzed. The patient died in August, having left the hospital in June against advice.

DR. A. R. KIMPTON, who performed the operation, said that the anemic area in the cord had but little abnormal appearance but was hard and cystic to the touch. The mass, which slipped out readily upon incision, proved to be a multilocular cyst. Though cases have been reported from autopsy containing cysticercus, this was the only case, so far as Dr. Kimpton knew, of removal of such a tumor during life.

PROTHYMIA: NOTE ON THE MORALE-CONCEPT IN XENOPHON'S CYROPEDEIA

DR. E. E. SOUTHARD stated that the setting forth of the morale-measures in Xenophon's Cyropedia reveals probably a behavioristic application of morale as the Greeks saw it. This morale as Xenophon represents it is not the same as the modern story of morale. The roots of the words in which Xenophon describes this morale are those having to do not with mere feelings but with movement and speed also rather than with mere strength. These are words which indicate the thoracic location of the emotions rather than that in the head but this emotional expression is behavioristic rather than felt emotion.

A principal term in the list, *prothymia*, hints of motion and it is used generally in compounds where it signifies "heart" in a figurative sense. *Pro*, the prefix, signifies pushing forward in space. *Thymia* is familiar in modern compounds, such as hyperthymia, parathymia, etc., which describe different phases of emotion. Dr. Southard suggests that the term *prothymia* is euphonious, contains a variety of meanings and may be used as an adjective or a substantive.

THE MILITANT

DR. E. B. LANE presented the difficulties of diagnosis and proper advice to be given in regard to individuals who come under this designation and concerning whom the advice of the alienist is sought. They should be recognized as a type in themselves who act insanely, lack insight and are without repentance, but who are not demented, do not show the delusions of paranoia nor have they hallucinations and confusional states. He outlines their typical history. They are usually women of the type who have been very efficient when young but probably difficult to get along with and considered temperamental. The individual may have been a business or professional woman. She has perhaps married and had children whom she has managed with apparent success until the time of their independence. Then the mother sets out to make her authority felt in interference, particularly in the case of the daughter. Her meddling attitude extends to servants and interferes with friendships, although she may still hold social offices because of her ability and still existing charm. She arouses many petty jealousies at home and abroad and perhaps even spreads suspicion into her husband's business relations. She interferes with the daughter's interests even to villifying the character of a possible lover and perhaps tarnishing the daughter's name.

She is able cleverly to deny all this when brought to the physician and urges him to continue his examination of her. She may have forearmed herself against legal difficulties by the securing of a lawyer and she may be seeking evidence against the husband in test of his sanity. At an institution little evidence of mental disease is obtainable but the woman represents herself as abused and persecuted. She is released and then her militancy extends to more aggressive accusations against her family. These cases resemble paranoia but it is difficult to establish any delusions. They do however belong in the group of the litigant and querulent in age incidence and hopelessness of treatment. They go at times to extremes of brutality. They are allied to those with uncontrollable impulses, their sense of power destroying affection and judgment and leading to all resourcefulness to satisfy their desire. In conduct they are insane, for they are not consciously responsible for their evil doing. Punishment only aggravates them and makes things worse. They make most uncomfortable inmates of institutions to which they are committed.

DR. H. B. HOWARD told of a case of this sort, a man under observation for ten years. The object here of the jealousy and militancy was the son, a more successful business man. The father succeeded finally in undermining all the son's business relationships. Only one slight delusional idea had been manifest.

DR. SOUTHARD asked whether deterioration was to be regarded as a

constant characteristic of such cases and suggested that they were parabolic rather than paraphrenic, which made the question of committability difficult. Was there not a relation here with a mild sadism, he asked.

DR. G. A. BLUMER said he believed deterioration eventually took place in most cases. He had known a man who for thirty years had kept his place successfully in business but all the time had harbored suspicions against his wife, which he only brought to light on a recent trip to Europe. Since then he has developed definite delusions and is confined as insane.

DR. LANE closed by saying that he thought this group should be as committable as are cases of kleptomania and pyromania. An understanding of their unreasonable and incomprehensible actions is often impossible.