

Other investigators have uniformly employed either the rapid Golgi (or Cajal) method, or the Cox method. In this research nine of the cases were treated according to four separate procedures, namely, the slow, mixed and rapid modifications of the bichromate of silver method, and the Cox modification of the bichromate-sublimate method; two cases, by the rapid method and that of Cox, and the rest of the material according to some one of these procedures alone. A comparison of this material with especial reference to the alleged pathological changes demonstrated the following points:

First, that the same material when treated by the different methods yields different results; thus, all material treated by the slow modification shows dendrites which are uniformly non-varicose, while any material treated by the other three procedures regularly reveals varicosities on the dendrites. Second, the above results are independent of the nature of the material, whether derived from normal or poisoned animals. Third, the same material does not yield constantly identical results when treated either by the mixed, rapid, or Cox procedures, as fragments cut from the same cortex, and immersed in the same fluid, of any one of these three methods may show dendrites with every degree of the varicoseness.

JELLIFFE.

257. DER GEGENWÄRTIGE STAND DER NEURONLEHRE (The Present Position of the Neuron Theory). A. Hoche (Centralblatt f. Nerveneheilkunde u. Psychiatrie, 22, 1899, p. 276).

Hoche is one of the school that would teach the passing of the neuron theory. He here presents a series of conclusions in which he writes that the conception of the neuron as outlined by Waldeyer is no longer tenable. The fibrillar theories of Apáthy, Bethe, and others do not interfere with the data derived from embryology. The individuality of the neuron in a histological sense is no longer to be upheld for vertebrates. Human and animal experimental pathology show that there is an individuality in the neuron, trophic and functional, even if the evidence for histological individuality is wanting. The author thus tries to make incomplete histological evidence of more value than complete physiological truth.

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258. UEBER CENTRAL NEURITENENDIGUNGEN (On Central Nervous Endings). Semi Meyer. (Archiv f. mikroskopische Anatomie, 54, 1899, p. 296).

The old Gerlach reticulum about the cell-body has still a place in nerve cell histology, according to Meyer, who here contributes a critical study of the nerve terminations within the central nervous system. Very recent work by Golgi and Cajal by the silver methods bears out the testimony afforded by the methylene blue method, and seems to show that the nerve terminations about the cell body are extremely complex. The nerve termination comes in contact with the cell body, spreads about it, and completely enfolds it. He also maintains that the present-day conception of the Waldeyer neuron is tenable, and that Apáthy's and Bethe's evidence, even if mainly authentic, does not necessarily negative the generally accepted view of the neuron theory; moreover, continuity of fibrils is as yet only conjectured, not proven.

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