

About the time of puberty the patient showed a general lessening of physical strength, and at the age of 15, or about five years ago, definite muscular weakness appeared in the right upper extremity, then the left, and consecutively the back, hips, and lower extremities. Shortly after the muscular weakness made its appearance, atrophies of the muscles of the shoulder girdle were noted, and these have been progressive, until a typical "winged scapula" is present on each side. A résumé of the muscular condition is as follows: a slight weakness of the orbicularis oris giving a "tapir" mouth effect; weakness of all the muscles of the shoulder girdle to about one half of their normal efficiency; preservation of the muscular strength of the forearms and hands; a weakness of the anterior and posterior trunk groups, more especially the latter; weakness of the posterior thigh group and the anterior leg group, including the dorsiflexors of the feet and toes; no atrophies below the waist line, but possibly some hypertrophy of pseudohypertrophy of the high and calf groups. The mode of arising from a supine to an erect position and from a sitting to an erect position is particularly characteristic. The electrical reactions show only a quantitative change in excitability and in no instance was there an alteration of polarity. The onset, course, subjective and objective symptoms exhibited, including the mode of arising from the supine and sitting positions to the erect position, together with the electrical reactions, seem to indicate that the case is a primary myopathy of the progressive muscular dystrophy type.

**Manson, J. S.** HEREDITARY SPASTIC PARAPLEGIA WITH ATAXIA AND MENTAL DEFECT. [Br. Med. J1., September 25, 1920.]

Four children are here reported upon who were affected by this disease. The children were normally born and developed regularly up to 7 and 8 years, when they began to stagger. This progressed and they were soon unable to walk to school. One died at 22 and one at 27. The survivors, aged 28 and 23, present the same syndrome. The father was the illegitimate son of an inmate of a workhouse and of an invalid man in the workhouse.

**Kirstein.** PRESSURE IN SPINAL FLUID IN PREGNANCY. [Arch. für Gynäkologie, 1919, 110, No. 2.]

No influence from the pregnancy could be detected in the testing of thirty-one pregnant women. Blood pressure, however, is always abnormally high in eclampsia when compared with the nonpregnant; eclamptic convulsion is probably due to an exceptionally high rise in the blood pressure. Attempts must be made to ward off the cerebral edema.