

addition some evidence was secured to show that true carriers of groups 1 and 2 may be encountered in individuals who have been in no contact with an infected patient, so far as is known. There can be no doubt but what convalescents from lobar pneumonia may carry for long periods of time in their mouths the type of pneumococcus with which they were infected. These facts may throw much new light upon the epidemiology of this disease and subsequently bring to light very important factors concerned in the transmission of pneumonia from one individual to another.

The Influence of Age upon the Venous Blood-pressure in Man.—D. R. HOOKER (*Am. Jour. Physiol.*, 1916, xl, 43) has recorded observations on the venous blood-pressure in normal individuals at different ages. The author used the method he described in 1914 (*Ibid.*, xxxv, 73), the pressure being recorded in centimeters of water. The subjects were grouped in decades, and each figure represents the average of determinations on at least 50 individuals. Cardiac disease was excluded in the subjects studied. "Because of the uncertainties of illumination, the pressures were read at complete collapse of the vein and not, as is more accurate, at the point at which the shadow comes and goes with slight oscillations of the outside pressure." The values are therefore somewhat high: 5 to 15 years, 8.30 cm.; 15 to 25 years, 12.66 cm.; 25 to 35 years, 15.00 cm.; 35 to 45 years, 17.98 cm.; 45 to 55 years, 19.64 cm.; 55 to 65 years, 24.17 cm.; 65 to 75 years, 25.59 cm.; 75 to 85 years, 26.00 cm.

X **The Effects of the Subcutaneous Injection of Organ Extracts upon the Flow of Pancreatic Secretion.**—J. ROGERS, J. M. RAHE, G. G. FAWCETT AND G. S. HACKETT, (*Am. Jour. Physiol.*, 1916, xl, 12) report studies made on the dog on the effect of aqueous extracts of organs upon the flow of pancreatic secretion, which they summarize as follows: The effect of the subcutaneous injection in dogs of the residue, or non-coagulable portion, of an aqueous extract of the liver is the immediate and vigorous stimulation of the external secretion of the pancreas. The residues of the thyroid and thymus produce a somewhat less vigorous and later response. The residue of the pituitary and parathyroid glands and of the spleen and pancreas are inert. The residue of the adrenal gland, like adrenalin, vigorously inhibits the intestinal secretions of the pancreas. Only the residue or non-coagulable portion of an aqueous extract of the above mentioned organs shows any appreciable effect upon the intestinal secretion of the pancreas.

The Nature of the Active Principle of the Retroperitoneal Chromaffin Tissue.—M. E. FULK and J. J. R. MACLEOD (*Am. Jour. Physiol.*, 1916, xl, 21) refer to the theory that all chromaffin tissue, whether contained in the suprarenal gland or not, yields adrenin, or a substance having a similar pharmacodynamical action. Vincent has pointed out that this theory is based upon the provisional assumption that chromaffin tissues are specific in their nature and everywhere of the same essential character. In support of this hypothesis, Biedl and Weisell have shown that extracts of the retroperitoneal chromaffin tissues in man have the same effect on arterial pressure as extracts of the suprarenal glands. The authors have employed other pharmacodynamical