

the spine or the rupture of an abscess. More usually the onset is gradual. A flaccid monoplegia or a single band of anesthesia naturally indicates root involvement, while spastic paraplegia with Babinski's sign or anesthesia of the whole region below the lesion indicates spinal compression. The motor troubles generally precede, and indicate a better prognosis when unaccompanied by general sensory changes.

The author then indicates the four types into which he divides the manifestations. He points out the evil of flaccidity ensuing upon spasmodicity. As to the troubles of object sensibility, they do not always correspond with the level of the lesion. A syringomyelic or contrary dissociation indicates a destructive lesion of the interior of the cord, and it is prognostically bad as are bed sores and sometimes cystitis, which favor secondary infections. The author cites Dejerine's case, and adds two others where lepto-meningitis followed bed sores probably by infection along the nerves.

The diagnosis is only difficult when the root signs are equivocal; but these even when present, may be due to other causes. In its later stages Pott's disease may be mistaken for acute myelitis, which, however, is distinguished by lumbar puncture; but if syphilis complicates, great difficulty is presented. The author shows the difficulty of diagnosis in cases of polyneuritis, amyotrophy, radicular sciaticas of Lortat Jacob and Sabreanu, of myelomalacia, of pachymeningitis hypertrophica, of syringomyelia, and of spinal paraplegias of the old, as well as with the classical tumor, aneurysm and other spinal compressions.

The most important element in the diagnosis is the root signs; but even their presence does not always make diagnosis possible.

The prognosis is not always bad; but the cure requires several years. It consists of immobilization and general hygienic measures.

The author follows Chipault in his disapproval of surgical intervention. A bibliography of recent work is given.

TOM A. WILLIAMS (Washington, D. C.).

BEITRÄGE ZUR DIAGNOSTIK UND THERAPIE DER GESCHWÜLSTE IM BEREICH DES ZENTRALEN NERVENSYSTEMS. Von Prof. Dr. H. Oppenheim, Berlin. S. Karger, Berlin.

This short contribution to the study of tumors of the brain and spinal cord is a report of several cases occurring in Oppenheim's practice. Most of the cases have been reported in the current medical literature. They reflect the skilled neurological technic of the author. The surgical procedures are extensively considered. As case histories alone are considered, we cannot go further into this contribution than to commend it to working neurologists.

JELLIFFE.

THE DANCING MOUSE. By Robert M. Yerkes, Ph.D. The Macmillan Company, New York.

The author tells us that this book about that species of rodents more properly called the dancing mouse was written for three purposes. First to present accurately and briefly the results of experiments made by the author, secondly, to give as complete a history of the dancer as a thorough study of all the observations made by others on the subject would permit; and thirdly to provide a text-book for reference in the study of animal behavior.