

appeared. At first it seemed as if an abscess had been opened, but after consideration and exploration it was considered more likely that the cavity was a cyst-like projection from the ventricle, such as was normally present in certain apes—*e.g.*, the orang-outang—and was rarely met with in man. This diagnosis was confirmed by sections of part of the wall which was excised, and which showed that the cavity was lined by ciliated epithelium.

(To be continued.)

Abstracts.

MOUTH, PHARYNX, NASO-PHARYNX.

Butto, H. Hoyle.—*Hypertrophy of the Lymphoid Ring of the Pharynx and its Surgical Treatment.* "Medical Record," January 17, 1903.

In this paper hypertrophy of the lymphoid tissue of the vault of the pharynx, of the faucial tonsils, and of the lymphoid tissue at the base of the tongue is considered, and indications laid down as to efficient means of treatment.

The paper is a useful summary of the subject.

W. Milligan.

NOSE AND ACCESSORY SINUSES.

Bellevue.—*A Case of Tuberculous Tumour on the Posterior Part of the Septum Nasi.* "Revue Hebdom. de Laryng.," June 14, 1902.

Tuberculosis of the nose, excluding lupus, is a very rare affection; primary tuberculosis in the form of a definite tumour is still rarer. Madame D—, aged forty, began to be troubled in 1899 with a pricking sensation in the nose, accompanied by the formation of crusts. In other respects her health was excellent; previous history good, and her parents were quite healthy. For about a year and a half the nose was treated by daily washing with boracic solution, etc., but the condition did not improve. In January, 1902, she came complaining of vague pains in the nose, and of nasal respiration being obstructed by the crusts. On examination, slight atrophy of the mucosa of the inferior turbinals and anterior end of the septum, with crust-formation, was found; also a small tumour about the size of a pea growing from the septum towards its posterior end. The tumour was irregular in shape, very red, and bled readily on the slightest touch; the mucous membrane around it was congested. This was snared, and the site of origin cauterized, and suitable treatment ordered for the atrophic condition. After a few months' treatment the nose appeared perfectly well, and the patient in robust health.

On microscopic examination, the tumour was found to consist chiefly of lymphoid cells, traversed by engorged bloodvessels. Scattered throughout were typical tubercles, in the centre of each a large giant-cell with nuclei *en couronne*, around it a more or less broad zone of epithelioid cells. No attempt was made to find tubercle bacilli, nor

were inoculation experiments carried out. But the author considers that this was unnecessary, as the microscopic characters alone sufficed to establish the diagnosis of tubercle.

Arthur J. Hutchison.

Citelli, Dr. S. (Turin).—*The Dimensions, Form, Direction and Symmetry of the Choanae in Adult Human Skulls.* "Archivii Ital. di Laringologia," etc., Naples, January, 1903.

For the purpose of his investigations the author has examined 1,025 skulls in the Anatomical Institute of the Royal University of Turin. Of these 300 were normal; 300 with various abnormalities; 350 skulls of criminals (only 50 men's); cretinoid and microcephalic, 30; negroes, 15. For the height he took the distance between the middle point of the inferior border of the choana and the middle of the vault, and for the breadth the distance between the internal wing of the pterygoid and the posterior margin of the vomer at the middle of the choana. In the normal and criminal skulls the results were as follows:

1. The dimensions of the choanae increase with age. In skulls of persons from sixteen to twenty years of age the dimensions were usually smaller than in those between twenty and forty, while these in their turn were smaller than the dimensions found at over forty years.

2. The dimensions observed in normal skulls, in those with anomalies, and in those of criminals within the same age limits, were approximately identical.

3. The *maximum height* found was 36 millimetres in men and 31 millimetres in women; the *minimum*, 19 millimetres. The *maximum breadth*, 17 millimetres; *minimum*, 16 millimetres.

4. The *mean height* was 26 millimetres in men of twenty years and upwards and 24.3 millimetres in women; *mean breadth*, 14 millimetres in men, 13 millimetres in women. The mean breadth is, therefore, a little more than half the height.

For the dimensions of the openings in living persons, adopting Luschka's estimate of the thickness of the periosteal and mucous coverings as 2 to 3 millimetres, the author gives the mean as 24.5 by 12.5 in men, 22 by 11.5 in women.

In the cretinoid, microcephalic, and skulls of inferior races of from fifteen years upwards, the author finds the choanae are smaller by some millimetres than those of persons of normal Caucasian race. From eight to fourteen years they are also smaller, while, on the other hand, below eight years the dimensions are equal to and in some cases greater than those in normal skulls.

In the course of his investigations the author endeavoured to establish a relation between the *choanal index* (percentage of breadth to height) and the palatine, facial, and cephalic indices. This was done in ninety skulls, with the result that such relation was frequently absent. As regards *form*, he refers the choanae to three principal types: (1) The *arched window* (flat floor, vertical sides, and arched vault); (2) the *elliptical*; (3) the *oval*; and discusses at considerable length the causes which produce them. Space does not permit of entering more fully into this part of the subject here, but the varieties appear due to the different degrees of development of especially the pterygoid process and the rostrum of the vomer. The question of symmetry has already engaged such writers as Gruber, who first called

attention to its frequent absence; Hopner, who, as well as Sieur, Jacob, Von Török, Schaus, and others, found asymmetry in 50 per cent. The author distinguishes (1) asymmetry in height, (2) of breadth, (3) of form. Sometimes it is mixed, and asymmetry of form more frequently accompanies the others.

The following are the general conclusions drawn :

1. The form of the choanæ in almost all cases can be referred to three principal types.

2. The mean dimensions are 26 by 14 millimetres in male skulls and 24 by 13 millimetres in female.

3. A direct relation between the choano-palatine angle and the facial and cephalic indices is often wanting.

4. The direction of the longitudinal axes of the choanæ is either vertical, converging above, or (more rarely) divergent.

5. Asymmetry is frequently met with in man. In criminals, degenerates, in men of inferior race, and in animals, it appears more frequently than in men of normal Caucasian type.

James Donelan.

Lacoarret.—*Muco-Papillomatous Polypi of the Nasal Septum.* "Revue Hebdom. de Laryng.," etc., May 24, 1902.

Amongst the rare tumours growing from the septum nasi, the most common is a polypus having the appearance of a papilloma and consisting of myxomatous tissue, in the midst of which are found numerous bloodvessels more or less dilated and surrounded by quantities of embryonic cells. They are firm, vary in colour from rose to deep red, bleed readily, and often give rise to considerable epistaxis. The pedicles are generally very thin and fragile, and so short as to make the tumour appear sessile. As a rule only one tumour is present, and no other pathological condition of the nasal mucosa coexists. They are benign and do not seem to recur after removal, although in histological characters they appear to be closely allied to the cavernous myxo-sarcomata.

The author has treated seven cases, and gives short notes of four. One was unusual, inasmuch as several tumours were present, one on the left side of the septum and four or five on the right side of the septum and floor of the right nasal fossa, and at the same time the inferior turbinated bodies were hypertrophied and papillomatous looking.

Arthur J. Hutchison.

Lapersonne, F. de.—*The Oculo-orbitary Complications of Sinusitis.* "Annales des Maladies de l'Oreille, du Larynx," etc., September, 1902.

The author enters very fully into this subject, and points out that the origin of eye mischief is very often overlooked. Abscesses in the orbit may occur, but cerebral abscess, suppurating meningitis, and thrombo-phlebitis of the cavernous sinus is more frequently met with. Myxomata in the frontal or ethmoidal sinuses may produce deviation of the eyeball, sometimes bilateral. Hypertrophic rhinitis may produce complications, infection being conveyed by the lachrymal duct.

Optic neuritis is rare in frontal sinusitis, but more common in sphenoidal.

A great number of functional troubles can also be traced to disease of the sinuses.

Anthony McCall.