

and state of the spinal fluid: 40.4% showed neither fever nor leucocytosis, but 3 showed increased cell counts in the spinal fluid; 55.9% showed elevations in temperature, 44.9% between 99° and 99.5° F., 11% between 99.6° and 100° F.; 22.9% showed definite leucocytosis, 3.6% occurring without elevation in temperature, and 19.3% accompanying febrile reactions. Pleocytosis of the spinal fluid occurred in 17.4%; 3 of these cases showed normal temperatures and leucocyte counts, 7 were accompanied by fever alone, 2 by leucocytosis alone, and 7 by both fever and leucocytosis.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Nuclei of the Region of the Tuber Cinereum: Degenerative Changes in Cases of Epilepsy, with a Discussion of their Significance.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, August, 1930.) Morgan, L. O.

The author examined the nuclei of the tuber cinereum in six epileptic brains. He found marked shrinkage and often hyperæmia in the wall of the third ventricle and at the base of the tuber cinereum. The cells of the substantia grisea were reduced to from 15–35% of the normal number. Chromatolysis was general among the remainder. The glia-cells were increased to two or three times the normal number. Neuronophagia was common. In the nucleus tubercularis there was a loss of 35–80% of the cells, with marked widespread chromatolysis among the remaining cells. In the nucleus tubero-mamillaris the cell loss varied from 15% in one case to 35–55% in the other cases. 60 to 85% of the remaining cells in this nucleus showed chromatolysis. The author thinks that the three nuclei of the tuber may be secretory centres for the thyroid, parathyroid and suprarenal glands, and that the degeneration in the substantia grisea of the third ventricle is concerned with the mental deterioration of the epileptic.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Pituitary and Hypothalamic Region in Chronic Epidemic Encephalitis.* (*Brain*, April, 1930.) Eaves, E. C., and Croll, M. M.

This is a detailed histological study of a series of ten cases, well illustrated with photographic reproductions.

The authors find that—

(1) In chronic epidemic encephalitis there is frequently some change in the pituitary.

(2) The hypothalamic region of the brain is more severely affected than any other area except the substantia nigra of the mid-brain. The changes in the two regions are usually, but not invariably, parallel.

(3) The changes in the hypothalamic region were greater than in cases of Huntington's chorea and general paralysis of the insane, which showed severe degenerative changes elsewhere.

The relations of sleep, cachexia and hæmorrhages to the general pathological picture are also discussed.

WM. McWILLIAM.