

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**Meningo-encephalitis as the only Manifestation of Mumps: Report of Three Cases.—Tasker Howard.** "Amer. Journ. Med. Sci.," clviii, No. 5, p. 685.

This paper is of interest to otologists in view of the association of mumps with the sudden onset of deafness.

Metastatic lesions in mumps are well known, testifying to the general nature of the infection. Orchitis, mastitis, pancreatitis, arthritis, encephalitis and meningitis are at times met with. Orchitis is occasionally recognised in the absence of any involvement of the salivary glands. Three cases reported are regarded as instances of mumps meningo-encephalitis, in spite of the absence of inflammation of the salivary glands. They occurred in the presence of a mumps epidemic. In two of the three cases there was recovered from the spinal fluid, a Gram-positive diplococcus. This was found in direct smear and grown in pure culture in both cases. The spinal fluid in each case presented a moderate pleocytosis, characterised by a predominance of mononuclear cells. The conditions with which we are familiar which show this picture are (a) syphilis, (b) sometimes tuberculous meningitis, (c) encephalitis lethargica and (d) mumps. Two of the three patients were certainly not syphilitic. Tuberculous meningitis and encephalitis lethargica are ruled out in all cases by the clinical course.

J. S. Fraser.

**Enlarged Thymus Gland and some Remarks on Status Lymphaticus.—R. C. Newton (Montclair).** "Amer. Journ. Med. Sci.," October, 1919.

The case described was that of a young man, aged twenty, who suffered from loss of muscular vigour, some dyspnoea and a soft oedema over his neck, upper chest and shoulders. X-ray examination showed the thymus gland so much enlarged that it covered all, or nearly all, of the anterior surface of the pericardium. As a result of X-ray treatment the oedema and other symptoms disappeared, but returned a year later, when only slight and temporary improvement followed a second course of this treatment. He finally developed an aortic aneurysm and died as a result of its rupture. The author discusses what is known as to the minute anatomy, physiology and pathology of the thymus and also the significance of the *status lymphaticus*. He is inclined to regard both the latter condition and anomalies in the structure and size of the thymus as due in some way to defective hygiene and diet, and so perhaps allied to rickets.

Thomas Guthrie.

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### REVIEW.

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*Compendium of Medico-Legal Oto-Rhino-Laryngology.* By Drs. CIRO CALDERA and ALBERTO BALLA. Biella: G. Testa, 1916. Pp. 278.

A great deal of condensed information is presented by the authors in this book. While its use is strictly limited in English-speaking

countries there is little doubt that in Italy it will fulfil a very useful purpose.

It contains an excellent *résumé* of the methods of detecting malingerers, and particulars of standards of fitness required for military service in most of the European countries. The questions of life insurance, compensation for alleged injuries to the ear, etc., are also dealt with.

The book is useful in supplying a general guide to the assessment of injuries and diseases caused by, or aggravated by, military and civil employment.

J. K. Milne-Dickie.

### NOTES AND QUERIES.

#### SECTION OF LARYNGOLOGY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE: SUMMER CONGRESS, 1920.

The *Second Annual Summer Congress* of this Section will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 24 and 25, 1920, at 1, Wimpole Street, London W. 1.

Members of the Section are invited to contribute papers which may be read at the Congress. Papers will be read on the afternoon of Thursday, June 24, from 2.30 till 5.30 p.m., and on the morning of Friday, June 25, from 10 to 1. Not more than 15 minutes will be allowed for the reading of any paper.

The usual Clinical Meeting will be held on Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. Demonstrations will be given; also there will be a Pathological Museum and an exhibition of Instruments and Drugs.

Those who intend to read papers are requested to send in their titles not later than April 24, and the abstracts of their papers not later than May 24 to the Hon. Secretaries, Dr. Irwin Moore, 30A, Wimpole Street, London, W. 1, or Mr. Charles Hope, 22, Queen Anne Street, London, W. 1.

American and foreign colleagues are cordially invited to take part in the work of the Congress as Honorary Members.

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Café Royal on the evening of Thursday, June 24. Members are requested to intimate their intention to be present to the Secretaries as soon as possible.

#### THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The first meeting of the above Association since 1914 will take place this year at Cambridge, from June 30 till July 3, that is to say, on the week following the Summer Congress of the Laryngological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine (see above notice).

At the Association meeting there is to be no special section of Oto-Laryngology, but oto-laryngologists may attend and read papers in the surgical and other sections if they so desire.

#### OTOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

The next meeting of this Section will be held on May 21. Notices and papers to be sent in not later than May 1. Secretaries: Mr. H. Buckland Jones and Mr. Lionel Colledge.

#### LARYNGOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

The next monthly meeting of this Section will be held on May 7. Notices and papers to be sent in not later than April 25. Secretaries: Dr. Irwin Moore and Mr. C. W. Hope.

### BOOK RECEIVED.

**Atti della Clinica Oto-Rino-Laringoiatrica della R. Università di Roma**, diretta dal Prof. Gherardo Ferreri. Anno XVI.—1918. Roma. Tip. 'Le Massime'—Guiseppe Farri. 1919.