

mitting that he used to drink alcohol steadily, made no complaints suggestive of hepatic disease. He was under treatment for sacro-lumbar pains and was given the test largely for the purpose of seeing how the liver of an old man would deal with 100 grms. of levulose. The test was negative.

Case XXVI.—No. 15,197.—Male, aged 19. This was a doubtful case of tuberculosis, with dilated heart and ascites. There was a question whether it was the omentum or liver which one felt in the upper part of the abdomen. The levulose test was negative.

Analysis of the Cases.

There were 26 patients in all subjected to the test, and in their analysis we have striven to group them together, mainly from the clinical diagnosis.

Our first group consists of 9 cases in which either the clinical history or the physical signs, and in some instances both, suggested definitely hepatic disease.

In the second group are to be found 5 cases where the patients were the subject of advanced cardiac disease, and by glancing over the summary of each case one may readily discover the gravity of the lesions.

The chief characteristics of those cases comprising the third group, 6 in number, are protracted jaundice, signs of malignant disease, and digestive disturbances.

Into our fourth group we have thrown together 6 cases, and termed them miscellaneous. We have thus applied the test in a variety of conditions comprising several diseases, certain toxic states, and senility.

In studying these cases a little more closely it will be observed that our first group of 9 presents an interesting study, the results of which confirm the conclusions already arising from this test,—that it was usually positive in cirrhosis cases. Of these 9 all gave the positive reaction. Six of these it would appear are pretty definite cases of cirrhosis of the liver, Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. From the reaction and from the physical finding it seems probable that cases Nos. 8 and 9 are cases of early cirrhosis. This statement is based upon the tests becoming positive only in the second hour, and upon the history and appearance and complaints of the patient. In cases No. 1, 2, and 4, we must admit that there is doubt,—considerable doubt—and from the result of the tests these cases might be classified as “hepatic insufficiency,” which should be followed up.

The second group are all negative, with one exception, No. 14, which is of particular interest. This patient died from chronic endocarditis