

hemiplegia the man developed severe dyspnoea, and examination of the left lung showed it to be in a state of complete collapse over at least half the area. This was probably due to the anaesthesia of the larynx allowing plugs of mucus or food to pass into the bronchi. Eight weeks after operation the hemiplegia was fading, but the voice remained hoarse and low. The operation of removing a tumour of the carotid body is a very formidable one. In nearly all the reported cases ligation of all the carotids has had to be performed. The mortality for this operation, ligation of common carotid for aneurysm, is between 23 and 30 per cent. But this is not the only danger, for Pilz has pointed out that 32 per cent. of cases of ligation of common carotid exhibit brain symptoms, and that 56 per cent. of these cases die. Another danger is nerve injury to such important structures as the vagus, sympathetic, hypoglossal, facial, recurrent laryngeal, and in this case to the superior laryngeal. Those tumours should not be removed as long as they remain small; it is only when, by their rapid growth, a fatal issue is inevitable that operation is called for. Surgeons must be wide awake to the existence of such growths and so avoid being led into operating upon what might appear a trivial condition.

W. L. B.

## MEDICINE.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF JAMES STEWART, F. G. FINLEY, H. A. LAFLEUR AND  
W. F. HAMILTON.

"The Causation and Treatment of Headaches." *Practitioner*, July, 1906.

This subject is treated in a series of papers which will repay careful perusal.

Dr. Campbell points out in an introductory paper the impossibility of always relying on the position and character of a headache as a guide to its cause. This is especially the case in headaches which are general, and even local pain should be regarded as suggestive and not conclusive evidence of the cause, for the pain of a cerebellar tumour may be sometimes chiefly frontal, whilst that of a frontal growth is sometimes referred to the occiput.

In the investigation of headache, disease of the nervous system, the cardiac-vascular and renal systems should be first excluded. After the eyes have been examined and the sinuses thought of there is a class of cases included under the toxæmias, anæmias and reflex irritations,