nutrition of the muscles. He is therefore not readily inclined to believe that there can exist, anywhere in the nervous system, any one centre capable of maintaining (as a nerve centre must) afferent and efferent relations with the whole muscular system. So far as yet appears from experimental research, increased production of heat has been found in association with irritative lesions of nerve centres and tracts; but he is not aware that it has been proved satisfactorily that increased heat-production and increased tissue-waste result from the removal of a centre whose functions could, with propriety, be termed inhibitory or anabolic. But he thinks that researches in this direction are those which are best calculated to throw light on the difficult problem at present under discussion.

Mr. Victor Horsley of London begged to be allowed to communicate the results of experiments performed by Dr. Fred. Mott of London in the laboratory of the Brown Institution, since it seemed to him that Dr. Mott's observations were of the utmost importance, especially in view of the direction which the present discussion had taken. The question appeared to him to present the following points. Destruction of what we regard as trophic centres or cutting of fibres leading from the same may presumably produce disturbances of nutrition in one of three ways or combination of these, viz.: (1) True trophic disturbance. (2) Loss of function. (3) Vasomotor changes. Vasomotor changes, he thought, were anyhow put out of the question by the fact that experimental removal of the superior cervical ganglion of the sympathetic produces practically no change. Dr. Mott's method of experimentation appeared to him to possess the especial merit of excluding not only this complication, but also that due to loss of function. His method was as follows: He ligatured, on one side, certain anterior roots in the cauda equina of monkeys, under strict antiseptic precautions, and then observed the condition of the femora on the two sides. Now the normal metabolic changes in bone are, of course, known since the days of Hunter to be a combination of absorption and restoration. Dr. Mott found that the trophic changes in the bones produced were destructive—*i.e.*, exaggeration of the normal process of absorption.