

varies in direction according to whether hot or cold water is used. This is the best test as to whether the labyrinth has any remains of irritability or not, but is disagreeable to the patient.

Electrical stimulation can also be used, but is not considered of much value by the author, since a reaction can be induced even where the labyrinth is destroyed apparently from stimulation of the vestibular nerve or even deeper nervous connections.

The latter part of the book deals with the symptoms and diagnosis of various pathological conditions of the labyrinth.

Of special interest is the discussion of the destruction of the labyrinth from either acute suppuration, hæmorrhage, fracture of the base of the skull or other causes, and (2) localized labyrinthitis which forms the pathological basis of the so-called "Menière's disease."

A very practical application of the functional examination of the labyrinth arises from the indication it gives in suppurative diseases of the middle ear of an extension of the disease inward either from the tympanum or antrum. In the event of such a case requiring operative treatment the condition of the labyrinth is an important guide as to how far this special region of the temporal bone must be dealt with if one wishes to make the patient's future free from danger of intracranial complications and to secure the arrest of the disease with complete healing.

The author draws a comparison between labyrinthitis, with its relation to intracranial trouble, and appendicitis, with its well known dangers to the abdomen.

He gives what he considers to be the indications for operation upon the labyrinth, and describes the method devised by Neumann.

To all interested in the more exact diagnosis of ear diseases this little work is bound to be of great interest.

E. HAMILTON WHITE.

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### Society Proceedings.

#### MONTREAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

*(Continued from last issue.)*

Case of Acute Purulent Meningitis (probably epidemic) in a very young infant.

This case is of unusual interest, because of the very early age of the patient (8 days), the absence of apparent cause, the suddenness of the attack, its rapid termination and the extensive damage found at the autopsy.