

Anemia.—Clinically, a severe grade of anemia depresses the function of the liver as indicated by phenoltetrachlorophthalein. That there is also a decrease in the fibrinogen has been shown by Whipple, but owing to the quantity of blood necessary for carrying out the test, it is not applicable in all cases of anemia. Changes in the urinary nitrogen partition may appear.

Luetic Hepatitis.—Of the two cases studied, one showed normal phenoltetrachlorophthalein, a low lipase, urinary nitrogen partition changes and a positive galactose, while the other showed a low phenoltetrachlorophthalein content in feces, positive in urine, an abnormally high fibrinogen, low urea percentage of total non-protein nitrogen in blood and urinary nitrogen partition changes.

Polycrosisitis.—Two cases with much the same clinical condition and both with large livers showed practically identical findings, for instance, normal phenoltetrachlorophthalein in feces, but positive in urine, fibrinogen and lipase normal, low urea percentage of total non-protein nitrogen in blood, and changes in urinary nitrogen partition, but no decreased tolerance for sugar.

THE PHENOLTETRACHLOROPHTHALEIN TEST

Previously the results of eighty applications of the test on sixty-seven patients were reported. The total number of patients studied to date is 113, thirty-three of whom had no clinical evidence of liver disease. The positive findings in health and in various types of liver disease, together with the appearance of the drug in the urine, are shown in Table 2.

NECROPSY CASES

In this series five cases came to necropsy, and pathologic findings controverting the functional findings have not been encountered. It is of interest to note that two of the cases which clinically were thought to be cirrhosis of the liver, but showed slight functional changes, proved, at necropsy, to have no cirrhosis at all, but to be cases of chronic peritonitis in which the liver was enlarged owing to a thickened capsule. In one instance, a case of cirrhosis, microscopic study of the liver suggested greater injury than was shown by the functional studies. In the six cases which came to necropsy last year there was harmony between the