

two cases definite crops appeared on the buttocks. Occasionally the rash is bilateral. Different epidemics show variations with frequency of herpes. Von Zeimsen found herpes more frequent in meningitis than in any other disease. Lichtenstein found it present in 26 of 29 cases, while Stillé and Sydow report it in only 6 of 32 cases. Herpes usually appears in the first five days, but there may be successive crops throughout the attack. The contents have been examined repeatedly without finding the meningococcus present.

Erythema is not uncommon at the onset, but may only last a few hours, to be followed by petechiæ. It was noted in three cases of this series. Taches cérébrales was mentioned in two cases.

*Spleen.*—The occasional confusion of meningitis with typhoid fever led us to note the condition of the spleen in this series. In only two cases was the spleen distinctly palpable, and one of these cases gave other signs of the condition being one of general septicæmia, when we would expect the large, soft spleen of that condition. In 34 cases the organ was reported not palpable, and in 9 cases the condition was not noted either way.

From these figures then we may conclude that a palpable spleen is extremely rare in epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, and, if present, suggests a general meningococcus septicæmia.

*The Blood.*—The examination of the blood in this series serves merely to emphasize the already existing data on the subject. All authorities agree on two points,—(1) that there is in the vast majority of cases a well marked leucocytosis at the onset and early in the disease; (2) that the increase is chiefly in the polymorphonuclear variety of white cells.

Of thirty cases in which a white cell count was made, 26 (86.6 per cent.) showed a leucocytosis of 10,000 or over. In 4 cases the white cell enumeration was below 10,000, varying from 8,400 to 9,000.

In those cases which become chronic we may see a gradual reduction to normal in the white cell count, so that we may infer that the leucocyte count is of definite value if taken early in the disease, but if taken only after the case has become chronic is of doubtful value. As to the prognostic value of the white cell count, I find that of nine cases having over 30,000 white cells, seven died and two recovered; which would suggest a more serious outlook where there was a high leucocytosis; however, the number of cases is too small to draw definite conclusions. Of the four cases with a white cell count below 10,000, two died shortly after admission and two recovered. The hæmoglobin and red cells show no constant variations.