

nervous derangement, but whose pathology places them under the acute infectious disorders.

The infection of the central nervous system through the posterior nares and naso-pharynx, the probable similarity of the infective agent in both diseases, and the fact that they are known to occur in epidemic and sporadic forms, have opened the way for a better study and have led to the view that they are probably of the same or similar pathogenic nature.

The artificial production of poliomyelitis in monkeys by Flexner⁶ and others has thrown fresh light upon its pathogeny, but attempts to prevent or cure it after experimental production by means of serum or vaccines have not been encouraging.

For cerebro-spinal meningitis, on the other hand, a number of serums have been prepared, and their administration during the early days of the fever would appear to be of service.

Flexner states that he has largely reduced the mortality by the use of his serum.

It is difficult to make any authentic statement upon the use of serum and vaccines in the meningitides secondary to ear disease. Their employment, however, would appear to be of some value as an auxiliary method in operative treatment. An autogenous vaccine ought to be prepared and employed in all these cases, although its direct influence cannot at present be estimated.

The Röntgen rays find little application for their use on diseases of the nervous system. It was at one time thought that they might be of value in the location of tumors within the cranial cavity. This has not been found of any real value. They are, however, of decided value in the diagnosis of morbid conditions of the bony tissues surrounding the central nervous system, especially with reference to pituitary and other lesions at the base of the skull.

A minor, but at the same time interesting observation, has been made from their universal application in all cases of muscular atrophy affecting the small muscles of the hands. It has been found by X-ray photographs of the neck in many of these cases, occurring especially in young women, how frequently the presence of an additional or cervical rib is the cause of the muscular atrophy, and how satisfactory the recovery may be after the removal of the accessory piece of bone.

In cases of neurasthenia, accompanied by gastro and enteroptosis, the examination of the size, shape, position and motor action of the stomach and intestines may be easily and satisfactorily determined by tracing the course of a bismuth meal through the digestive tract by X-ray examination.