

THE FUNCTION OF THE FRONTAL LOBES. By Professor Bianchi, Naples.

1. For experimental work on the frontal lobes the only satisfactory animal is the ape, since in it these structures are well developed and their architectonic structure corresponds to that of the human cerebrum. The psychical activities of each ape must be carefully studied both before and after operation. 2. In front of the motor area (Rolandic) is an electrically excitable zone extending from the mesial margin of the hemisphere over the outer aspect to where that surface becomes continuous with the orbital surface. It is an integral part of the frontal lobe and corresponds to the prefrontal fissure. From this area the muscles of the neck, eyes, and ears can be stimulated. 3. The extirpation of the frontal lobes never produces permanent motor or sensory defects. Visual defects, similarly, are fugitive. 4. The whole intellectual life of the ape is altered after removal of the frontal lobes. Perception, attention, inhibition, and in particular memory and association, are enfeebled. The animal has no longer the power of profiting by experience. Sometimes stereotyped movements and tics are observed. 5. As a result its psychical tone is lowered: it lacks initiative, courage, and spirit.

RECENT PROGRESS IN THE CLINICAL STUDY OF THE EVOLUTION OF SYPHILIS. By M. H. Hallopeau, Paris.

He said that when the chancre manifests an intense reaction, and the morbid products formed by it are of great virulence, it is a sign of an over-activity of the treponema. The germs given off by the chancre may take different routes. (a) They may go by the lymphatics, which transmit them with or without lymphangitis to the neighboring lymphatic glands. (b) They may go by the capillaries. (c) They may enter the neighboring tissues, where they spread. These last show a higher degree of virulence than those which later come from the lymphatic glands, for the glands possess a great power of attenuating the micro-organisms. Amongst the ultra-virulent manifestations must be put most of the secondary manifestations of the vulva, of the prepuce, and of the parts around the anus. When the lymphatics and the lymphatic glands do not transmit the micro-organisms, infection can only take place by the blood-stream, and then the roseola does not appear, and, therefore, it may be said that the roseola is associated with the early affection of the lymphatic glands. The generalized infection only takes place at the beginning of the secondary stage and later the lesions are spread