

Medicine

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Experimental Epidemic Poliomyelitis and Its Relation to Human Beings. BY SIMON FLEXNER, M.D., NEW YORK.
Archive of Pediatrics.

Flexner's last paper on this up-to-date subject tells us that this disease has been transmitted to monkeys from man by injecting diseased spinal cord into the brain, peritoneal cavity, skin, circulation, etc., but that into the central nervous system only is valuable in transference through twenty odd generations. This prolonged passage of injection evidences the virus is a living thing and not a toxine. This virus is filtrable and cannot be cultivated outside the body, while it practically kills all monkeys as compared with a power of causing 5% mortality in humans.

The incubation period is 3-30 days and infection probably occurs per nasal mucous membrane, while the seat of the disease is in the membranes.

The cerebro-spinal fluid is clear with excess of lymphocytes, but a short period before the paralysis it may exhibit changes. The virus when mixed with the serum of recovering cases will not be virulent, and here lies our hope of discovering a cure.

G. W. H.

The Nervous Unfit. S. S. CROCKETT, M.D., NASHVILLE, TENN.
Journal A. M. A.

The steady advance in specialism in all departments of medicine inclines towards one fault: Among the host of nervous people to-day who live at the doctors' offices, each physician-specialist takes the patients' symptoms to be due to disease in his own sphere of work. *Result*, unsatisfactory. "As a critic may I add: Surely the time will come when besides suggestion, rest cure, electricity, vibration, etc., etc., we shall have the real application that will cure the nervous wreck."

G. W. H.