

ness, all due to vascular hardening, and compare the neurotic disturbances due to vasomotor spasm, similar in nature and leading frequently to similar thickening of the arterial walls.

In cardiac angina the diagnosis is of extreme importance, and one need not repeat the similar symptoms occurring in organic and functional forms. However, if one compares the relation of preceding exercise, or excitement, or even profound sleep; the absence or presence of attacks following preceding difficult energies; the occurrence of diminished diuresis, cardiac dilatation or dyspnoea (note that X-ray and percussion frequently give incorrect statistics); pulse rhythm (especially irregularities, and it may be added here that organic extra systoles are not noticed by the patient); aortic sclerosis with such signs as enlargement and systolic murmurs followed by pronounced second sound in the aortic area; by all these means we may conclude the case to be organic.

Again early signs of interstitial nephritis may be considered to be merely neurotic.

Albumin may be absent and no casts occur, perhaps the only sign of edema being a morning puffiness of the face; but note the second cardiac sound, and the tension of the pulse.

Asthmatic attacks or merely respiratory quickening may be a feature, also migraine, diarrhea, thirst.

Brain arteriosclerosis may completely copy the symptoms of neurasthenia, insomnia, early awakening, cephalic sensations, volitional defect, rotatory vertigo, motor paresis, paresthesias of hemidistribution, and so on.

Functional and organic diseases dependent on vascular origin are therefore difficult and important to distinguish from one another.

The Influence of Parental Alcoholism on the Physique and Ability of Offspring. By THEO. B. HYSLOP, M.D., C.M. EDIN., F.R.S. EDIN.

The conclusions arrived at by Dr. Hyslop are mainly, that alcoholics have larger families than the normal individual, and that these children tend to become alcoholic or show psychoneuroses at an earlier age than their parent, but whether this is due to the intoxicant or to a psychoneurotic parent, is not clearly decided. Also these neuroses are intensified when alcoholic inheritance exists instead of being diminished by new influences. G. W. H.