

question of the amount of total proteid present, of late years increasing importance has been attached to the study of the form of proteid. There is a tendency in present-day physiological circles to restrict the term globulin to a much smaller group of proteids than heretofore, but the definition of globulin afforded by the various salt-solubility tests will here be adhered to as being the better known and therefore more generally comprehensible one.

There is some divergence of opinion as to which form of proteid is present in normal fluid, a fact which illustrates how minimal is the quantity there. Whereas Arthus, Guillain and Parant, Halliburton, Mott, Hoppe-Seyler, Nawratzki, Rénon and Tixier, Sicard, Siemerling and Sollmann state that normally globulin is present but not albumin; Dirksen, Nonne and Apelt, Rous, Sabrazès and Schoenborn find both forms, and Nissl only albumin. The first-mentioned view is more probably the correct one, for it is based on very exact investigations made by some of the most experienced physiological chemists. At all events, if any albumin be present, it must be in exceedingly small amount. Halliburton states further that the proteid consists of serum-globulin, not fibrinogen or cell-globulin, and that it coagulates at 75° C.

In regard to metasyphilis, a similar divergence of opinion prevails as to the variety of proteid present, a fact that is to be attributed to the same cause as in the above case, namely, to the difficulty of deciding the point when the amount of proteid is so small—usually under five grammes per litre. Different results have been obtained by the use of different tests, so that some writers, as Cimbald and Nonne and Apelt, have wisely chosen to state their results empirically in terms of the tests employed, thus abstaining from any expression of opinion as to the nature of the proteid revealed by these tests. All writers on the subject are unanimous on at least one point, namely, that considerable quantities of serum-albumin are to be found in general paralysis. Nissl and Schoen-