

of the adventitia and outer portion of the media. In one other instance we obtained a complete hyaline destruction of the media without any evidence of inflammatory cells occupying the arterial wall proper. The only inflammation in this latter instance was found in the perivascular tissues. In none of the arteries had sufficient weakening of the walls occurred to permit of the characteristic dilatation and thrombosis. Although our experiments have not been successful in reproducing the lesions, we are sufficiently encouraged to continue the methods used in these experiments for the reproduction of the lesions. One of the difficulties which we have found hard to control is the proper gauging of the dose to be inoculated when the virulence of the microörganisms changes so markedly on artificial media. It is possible also that the rabbit is an unfavorable animal for carrying out these experiments, and it may be found that the reproduction of the particular injuries can be more readily accomplished in other animals.

CONCLUSIONS.

Periarteritis nodosa, a disease process of man and animals, is of rare occurrence. Records of forty human cases have been found in the literature, to which we have added two of our own.

The lesions are distributed along one or more arteries and their branches. The distribution is by way of the periarterial lymphatics.

The process is an inflammatory one, beginning in the outer portion of the artery and accompanied by a hyaline degeneration of the media. The intima is only secondarily involved, as it is disturbed by inflammatory or degenerative conditions in the outer arterial coats.

Secondary aneurysms with rupture are not uncommon. Thrombosis of the involved arteries may lead to nutritional disturbances of organs and tissues supplied by the vessels.

Syphilis, although present in a number of cases, is not the exciting factor, but may play a rôle in inducing greater susceptibility of tissues.