

borne this out. Alcohol given by the stomach to the lower animals leads to a severe gastritis but no liver cirrhosis. Mertens has claimed positive results by administering alcohol by inhalation. The general contention held at present is that alcohol predisposes to liver cirrhosis, but that it does not stand alone in this. Weigert advanced the sweeping theory that in each case of liver cirrhosis, there was a preceding stage of liver-cell destruction, and that the various etiological factors which had been brought forward, were the agents leading to this destruction. In support of this are the experiments of Deutsch who was able to produce localized necrosis in the liver by injecting the animal with hepatic immune serum. Such hepatic immune serum was obtained by treating one animal, by intraperitoneal inoculations, with the ground-up liver substance of another animal. After some weeks of treatment, the serum from the inoculated animal, is found to be toxic and destructive of liver tissue in the other species of animal. Although several have claimed that the necrotic areas in the liver so obtained, are later filled in with connective tissue, Jagic never found this in his animals. Other experimenters reported the production of cirrhosis by bacterial inoculation, and many scattered reports exist of the finding of fibrosis of the liver in animals dead of tuberculosis. The cirrhosis occurring with tuberculosis is an intralobular pericapillary fibrosis.

Of the type of liver cirrhosis associated with obstruction of the bile passages, the author takes little note. The author passes on to a discussion of the cases occurring in Nothnagel's clinic in the last few years. He divides the cases into the alcoholic and non-alcoholic forms. Jagic points out that the cirrhosis occurring in distinctly alcoholic subjects always presents severe gastro-intestinal symptoms with icterus and pain over the liver. In every one of his cases belonging to the non-alcoholic type there were present one or more foci of tuberculosis somewhere in the body. These cases differ in the symptoms from the alcoholic type, in the absence of icterus and pain over the liver area.

The author believes that the tubercle toxin is the direct cause of the destruction of the liver cells and that the later cirrhosis is of the character of a replacement fibrosis.

WERSILOVA. "Hereditary Syphilis." *Central. f. Bakter.* 1906. Bd. XLII p. 513.

Syphilis may be transmitted from parents to child either by the ovum or spermatozoon, or through the placenta. The author attempted to trace the line of infection by demonstrating the spirochaetes in the placenta, cord and internal organs of the foetus. The Giemsa and silver nitrate method of Levaditi were used to demonstrate the organisms.