

of the face and tongue. In organic diseases the arm is the most involved. The reason why the leg is most affected is that the parts which are usually associated in action on the two sides of the body are intimately connected in their nerve supply, so that the centres can supplement each other, should one side be paralyzed. In cases of hysteria there are evidences to show that, though one hemisphere may be affected so as to produce hemiplegia, the other is also affected, but in a lesser degree, and cannot make good the defect of its fellow.

The above differential diagnosis is simple when the clinical signs are so sharply defined, but one in practice frequently comes upon cases of both organic and functional diseases, that do not altogether agree with the above. Many authorities state that the following symptoms, spastic condition of the extremity or extremities, increased knee jerks, ankle clonus, rectus clonus, Babinski's sign, Oppenheim's sign, are diagnostic of organic disease of the upper motor neurones.

In my experiences I have found a few of those, and sometimes all of them, present in cases of pure hysteria. The reason for this, I think, is that in cases where the neurones are suffering from an extreme exhaustion, they would show clinically the same paralytic symptoms as would organic disease destroying the functions of those sources. Only, in the cases of hysteria the variableness of those symptoms would aid in making a differential diagnosis, from an organic. But again, we often come across cases of hysteria which do not adhere to the usual rôle in being variable, but are more or less persistent, at least for a month or longer. In these cases we find great difficulty in making a diagnosis.

In the healthy individual, with a normally stable nervous system, there is, as already mentioned, an equable current of nerve force passing from centre to centre, producing a state of equilibrium, and healthy mutual control. Not only is this present, but there seems to be a reserve storehouse of energy, from which force can be drawn when necessary. If the individual is called upon to stand a severe and prolonged mental, and nervous strain, he is able to do so for a considerable time without manifesting many symptoms of exhaustion. In the neurasthenic and hysterical individual there does not seem to be present the storehouse of energy, or free flow and ebb of nerve force, passing from centre to centre. The reason is because the patient does not seem to be able to bank up any reserve energy, but lives more or less like some speculators on a margin. When a severe strain occurs, a very limited time elapses before fatigue becomes manifest, due to absence of this nerve force of energy and equable, steady nerve current,