

group it was found to be 37% and in the New Jersey State Village for Epileptics 56·8%. In the non-epileptic group only 8% showed a positive reaction. The authors suggest the investigation of sensitivity to cooked protein extracts. G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

*The Treatment of Meningococcal Cerebro-spinal Meningitis [À propos du traitement de la méningite cerebro-spinale à méningocoques]. (Fourn. Neur. et Psychiat. Belg., May, 1927.) Bouche, G.*

The author states that he has complete faith in the efficacy of treatment by anti-meningococcal serum, but in order that it may be effective it is essential that the serum can reach the lesion in sufficient concentration. He therefore strongly urges that in all cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis the appropriate serum should be introduced not only into the lumbar canal, but into both ventricles, in children and adults, at the earliest moment. He gives the following list of signs, in the lumbar fluid, of blockage of communication between the ventricular system and the spinal canal: Disappearance of meningococci, scarcity of polymorphs, xanthochromia, increased albumen and especially globulin, coagulation, low tension, and difficulty in obtaining a free flow of fluid. W. D. CHAMBERS.

*Herpes Zoster in Syphilitics [Le Zona des Syphilitiques]. (Fourn. Neur. et Psychiat. Belg., May, 1927.) Dujardin, B.*

Reference is made to the previous work of Brown and the author himself on this subject, and to other more recent publications. He does not agree that the treatment of syphilis by arsenic has made herpes more common in syphilitics. He considers that it is a meningitis in syphilis (even latent) which renders the herpetic infection of the ganglia and the cord more liable to occur. He also states that in syphilitic cases the herpetic eruption most commonly occurs elsewhere than on the thorax and upper limbs.

W. D. CHAMBERS.

*The Functional Significance of the Extra-pyramidal Systems. (Psychol. Bull., vol. xxiv, No. 4, April, 1927.) Rogers, F. T.*

In this compressed review the author analyses the work that has been and is being done on efferent cerebral tracts other than the pyramidal, particularly the connections and functions of the corpus striatum. He marshals the evidence that in normal muscular activity a dual system is involved—the direct or pyramidal tract, and the more diffuse extra-pyramidal tracts—these being normally balanced and integrated. The various disorders (clinical or experimental) ascribed to interference with the striatum are described, the work of Wilson being given special prominence. A list of sixty-five references to the literature of the subject follows the paper.

W. D. CHAMBERS.