

CURRENT LITERATURE.

INFLAMMATIONS, ETC.

TELANGIECTASIS MACULARIS ERUPTIVA PERSTANS.

FRANKLIN I. BALL. (1937.) *Arch. of Derm. and Syph.*, 36, 65.

A CASE of eruptive telangiectatic macules is here reported in an obese girl, aged 10 years. The lesions were widely distributed on the face and limbs and varied from a reddish tint on the face to a bluish tint on the legs. They came out in series of two or three at a time and tended to disappear spontaneously in about 12 months, leaving scars. In addition were a number of larger pea-sized macular lesions, possibly due to the coalescence of smaller ones. In this case there was no evidence of the relationship to urticaria pigmentosa which has been suggested in cases previously reported. The case also differed from previous cases in that the lesions tended to resolve spontaneously; hence the descriptive adjective "perstans" in this case was inappropriate.

J. M. H. M.

GOLD STOMATITIS. L. E. PIERINI and J. M. BORDA. (1937.) *Rev. Argentina de Dermatosifilologia*, 21, 681.

A MAN suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis received 14 injections of sanocrysin. The patient felt tingling in the mouth, and on looking into a mirror saw white spots, but did not call the attention of the doctor to this until after the tenth injection, when painful erosions appeared, which got worse after the last 4 injections. On examination there were pearly and leucoplakic-looking areas involving the tongue and the whole of the mucous membrane of the mouth except the hard palate. None of the lesions showed the typical arborescent form of lichen planus. In the grooves between the cheeks and gums were deep red erosions sharply defined by the surrounding white areas. A general examination revealed lesions on the glans penis. The authors agree with Gougerot that the condition is really a lichen planus set going by injections of gold. The most salient feature is the great extent of the eruption, which involves most of the mucous membranes; others are the white colour, leucokeratosis which is preceded by an erythema, the frequency of erosions, the presence of subjective sensations and the absence of sialorrhœa.

G. W. B.

THE ÆTIOLOGICAL PROBLEM OF PLASTIC INDURATION OF THE PENIS. JOSE MAY. (1937.) Montevideo: El Siglo Ilustrado.

IN this pamphlet are reprinted four papers by May and single papers by Burzaco and by Oliveri. They describe this lesion in 14 patients, of whom 8 had neither history nor evidence of syphilis. In the others, intensive antisyphilitic treatment had no effect on the lesions. Frei's intradermal test was positive in 12 patients, doubtful in 1 and negative in the other. All responded rapidly to antigen therapy, used alone or combined with other methods. May concludes that this malady is a form of Nicolas-Favre disease.

G. W. B.

A CASE OF LICHEN BULLOSUS. R. LEONE. (1937.) *Giorn. Ital. di Derm. e Sif.*, 78, 803.

THE author describes a case of lichen pemphigoides which showed numerous bullæ, and eosinophilia of the blood and fluid from bullæ. There was a tendency to detachment of the upper epidermal layers in the healthy skin near bullæ (Nikolsky's sign). Microscopically a cell-infiltration with all the characteristics of lichen was found. The author thinks that the presence of Nikolsky's sign may explain why the bullæ form in these cases.

R. C. L.

AN EPIDEMIC OF PHAGEDENIC ULCERS. GATTI, GARCETE and ROJANOVICH. (1937.) *Revista Argentina de Dermosifilologia*, 21, 345.

THIS affection has always been present in sporadic form in Paraguay, but in 1936 it assumed epidemic proportions, becoming highly contagious and extremely virulent. In the early stages the characteristic signs were fœtor, pain, rapid extension and hæmorrhages. Antispirochætal agents were the most useful in treatment. The epidemic was noteworthy for the absence of fuso-spirochætal infection of the mucous membranes.

G. W. B.

NEW GROWTHS.

EPITHELIOMA OF THE LOWER LIP SUPERVENING ON SIMPLE GLANDULAR CHEILITIS. J. J. PUENTE. (1937.) *Rev. Argentina de Dermatosifilologia*, 21, 684.

PUENTE describes two more examples of epithelioma developing from heterotopic glands below the mucous membrane. Touraine and Solente estimate the frequency of this occurrence as 13%, mostly in males.

G. W. B.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF MALIGNANT AMELANOTIC MELANOMA (NÆVOCARCINOMA) TO EXTRAMAMMARY PAGET'S DISEASE. A. P. STOUT. (1938.) *Amer. Journ. Cancer*, 33, 196.

THE author reviews the literature dealing with "cases of non-pigmented melanoma of long duration and superficial spread which so closely simulate Paget's disease that they may easily be mistaken for it". In particular there is described the case of a 71-year-old woman in whom a small crusted lesion appeared in the left popliteal area some twelve years before she came under observation. On examination two small rounded lesions were found behind the knee, the larger being only 5 mm. in diameter. There was no hyperkeratosis, and removal of the crusts revealed an underlying moist red surface. There was some thickening, but no induration. In the left femoral region there was a firm mass, measuring 5 by 4 cm. This and the popliteal lesions were all excised, the areas being later treated by radiotherapy. The patient died thirty-one months later with evidence of extensive pulmonary metastases and gross lymphatic invasion of the inguinal, femoral and iliac regions. The histopathology is described in detail. It is suggested that there is a group of superficial, slow-growing nævocarcinomas which are distinguished from other melanomas by the fact that invasion of the epithelium shows Paget-like characteristics.

S. T.

TREATMENT.

THE TREATMENT OF ACNE VULGARIS WITH TORANTIL.

M. HARTMANN. (1938.) *Derm. Wochenschr.*, 106, 693.

TORANTIL is a protein-like extract prepared from the mucous membrane of the gut, having an anti-allergic and detoxicating action. It was administered by intramuscular injection and by mouth to a series of twenty-five cases of severe acne vulgaris which had resisted other treatment.

Only cases with no apparent endocrine basis were chosen, and particular attention was given to a history of disturbance, however slight, of the intestinal functions.

It is suggested that in these cases acne is determined by auto-intoxication, resulting from impaired detoxicating power of the cells of the mucous membrane of the gut.

The treatment was completely successful in every case.

F. R. B.

TREATMENT OF INFECTED WOUNDS WITH UREA. LEON F.

MULDAVIN and JEAN M. HOLTZMANN. (1938.) *Lancet*, 1, 549.

IN Asia and even in many parts of Europe, human urine has been employed for centuries, and is still used, in the treatment of a variety of skin-conditions. Symmers and Kirk (1915) reported on the bactericidal properties of urea in the treatment of wounds. The writers here discuss the results of urea treatment in a series of 170 cases. These included abscesses, carbuncles, whitlows, cellulitis, infected wounds and burns. The technique employed was as follows :

The wounds were syringed free from pus and necrotic material with saturated solution of urea. Urea crystals were then generously applied and covered by waxed paper.

R. K.

SURVEY OF LITERATURE.

Abderhalden's Reaction, Interferometric Method for Skin Diseases. G. MURKEN. (1938.) *Zeitschr. f. d. ges. exper. Med.*, 103, 387.

Acne Vulgaris, Endocrine Therapy in. H. J. TEMPLETON and S. R. TRUMAN. (1938.) *California and Western Med.*, 48, 337.

Acne Vulgaris, Incidence in the Chicago Region. J. HINRICHSSEN and A. C. IVY. (1938.) *Arch. of Derm. and Syph.*, 37, 975.

Acne Vulgaris, Treatment with Torantil. M. HARTMANN. (1938.) *Derm. Wochenschr.*, 106, 693.

Acrodermatitis Chron. Atrophic. Herxheimer. I. JESPERSEN. (1938.) *Acta Dermato-Venereologica*, 19, 197.

Agranulocytosis, A case observed during treatment of Syphilis. J. BRANTS. (1938.) *Derm. Wochenschr.*, 106, 696.

Allergy, Cutaneous, in Tuberculosis. P. VIGNE and R.-L. LOMBARD. (1938.) *Sud Méd. et Chir.*, 70, 310.

Alopecia Areata. A. STRICKLER and S. I. GREENBERG. (1938.) *Arch. of Derm. and Syph.*, 37, 1008.

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