

CALCIFIED AND OSSIFIED PLAQUES OF THE SPINAL ARACHNOID MEMBRANES: KNOBLICH, R., & OLSEN, B. S. (1966). *J. Neurosurg.* 25, 275.

The relationship of calcified and ossified plaques within the spinal arachnoidea and spinal symptomatology was examined in 217 cases post-mortem (132 male and 85 female). Single plaques of 2 mm. diameter and less than 1 mm. thickness were found in 24 per cent., single small ones up to 3 mm. in diameter in 44.9 per cent. Multiple small and large plaques were observed in 17 per cent. and larger confluent ones in 13.9 per cent. Predilection places were the lower dorsal and lumbar areas. None of the patients showed clinically spinal symptoms which could have been caused by plaques. The patients were suffering from chronic renal disease, uraemia, carcinomatosis, metastasis and severe atherosclerosis.

According to the authors these plaques originate from accumulation of meningeal cells and seem to be an analogy to Pachionic granulations.

LE CHORDOME DE LA COLONNE CERVICALE (THE CORDOMA OF THE CERVICAL SPINE): BRIHAYE, T., TEANNART, L., BERBEN, T., LUSTMAN-MARECHAL, T., & GOMPEL, C. (1966). *Acta neurochir.* 15, 285.

This is a report of a case of a large cordoma of C4/5 cervical vertebrae developing over a three-year period. X-ray showed the vertebral bodies to be relatively intact as compared with the marked destruction of the massa lateralis. Vertebral angiography revealed signs of a process of non-specific vascularisation. The development of the tumour within the soft tissues of the neck is important for the differential diagnosis of malignant tumours of the vertebral column. The authors suggest radiotherapy prior to radical surgical removal.

L. GUTTMANN

THE STOKE MANDEVILLE GAMES: Sir LUDWIG GUTTMANN (1967). *Abbottempo*, 3, 1.

Sport demands continuous training. It interrupts monotony in hospital and prevents the spinal paraplegic from resigning into isolation. It represents an essential and indispensable complement to the conventional methods of physiotherapy. It helps to overcome the physical defects and to restore psychological equilibrium and self-confidence. Moreover, through the medium of sport society at large becomes aware of the capabilities of the disabled in a wheelchair. More than 15 types of sports events are being practised by spinal paraplegics. In 1948, Sir Ludwig Guttman founded the Stoke Mandeville Games for the Paralyzed, which in 1952 became an annual international sports festival, which in 1960 and 1964 followed the Olympic Games in Rome and Tokyo respectively. There is a steady improvement of the standard of performances in the individual sports. Moreover, these international sports events help to promote better understanding and friendship amongst nations. Society had responded to this achievement with admiration and practical help. *Friendship, Unity and Sportsmanship* are the ideals of this unique sports movement which is symbolised by three intertwined wheels of a wheelchair encircling the Globe.

F. W. MEINECKE

ERRATUM

IN the last issue of the journal (1968, Vol. 6, p. 57), under 'Abstracts from Other Journals', the reference to a paper by S. Lipton should have read '*Br. med. J.*, 1968, 2, 210'. It is regretted that the wrong volume number was given.