*The Total and Diffusible Calcium of Serum and the Calcium of Cerebro-spinal Fluid in Human Cases of Hypocalcæmia and Hypercalcæmia.* (*Biochem. Journ., vol. xxvii, p.* 1978, *Dec.*, 1933.) *Herbert, F. F. K.*

In human cases of hypocalcæmia and hypercalcæmia, the calcium of the cerebro-spinal fluid remains constant in spite of very wide variations in serum-calcium. The cerebro-spinal fluid calcium cannot be taken as a measure of the diffusible calcium in serum. In hyperparathyroidism the diffusible calcium of the serum is greater than the cerebro-spinal fluid calcium; in tetany and in some cases of uræmia the diffusible calcium falls below the cerebro-spinal fluid calcium.

G. W. T. H. Fleming.

*The Nervous Regulation of the Blood-Sugar Level: Decerebration Hyperglycæmia.* (*Klin. Woch., vol. xii, p.* 778, 1933.) *MacLeod, J. J. R., and Donhoffer.*

Prolonged anæsthesia with barbituric acid derivates prevents piqûre hyperglycæmia in fasting rabbits. During intravenous amytal anæsthesia and local anæsthesia, decerebration through the pons causes hyperglycæmia, associated with a decrease in muscle glycogen, insufficient, however, to explain the observed increase in blood-sugar. The blood lactic acid increases the liver glycogen and the gas metabolism is unaffected. Either bilateral adrenalectomy, vagotomy and atropine or atropine and ergotamine prevent decerebration hyperglycæmia in normally fed animals; in animals with liver glycogen of more than 5% the drugs alone do not suffice. Amytal and luminal also inhibit decerebration hyperglycæmia.

H. Eagle (Chem. Abstr.).

*Insulin Hypoglycæmia Tests with Epileptics.* (*Compt. Rend. Soc. Biol., vol. cxiv, p.* 902, 1933.) *Baudouin, A., Azerad, E., and Lavin, J.*

The blood glucose of epileptics (17 cases) and the effects of insulin were practically the same as in normal persons. L. E Gilson (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Influence of Emotional Excitement upon the Chemical Composition of the Blood.* (*Arch. Soc. Biol. [U.S.S.R.], vol. xxxii, p.* 502, 1932.) *Obrastzov, G. D., Minker-Bogdanova, E. T., and Kalinnikova, M. N.*

In emotional states in rabbits (fear, etc.), in addition to an increased sugar level, there were much greater variations of amylase content and a lower fat level than in normal quiescent states. In psychoneurotic children in emotional states, increased blood potassium and calcium were observed.

W. A. Perlzweig (Chem. Abstr.).

*The Leucocyte Formula in Affective Disorders* [*La formula leucocitaria nelle distimie*]. (*Riv. di Pat. Nerv. e Ment., vol. xlii, p.* 305, *Sept.-Oct.*, 1933.) *Rizzatti, E., and Mantinengo, V.*

The authors studied 100 cases of manic-depressive insanity, acute or chronic, elated or depressed, and including 14 cases of involutional melancholia.

They found a neutropenia in 75% of cases, a lymphocytosis above 30% in about 80% of cases, and a monocytosis in 18%. The eosinophils were mostly within normal limits. The Arneth weighted mean (taking normal as between 2·60 and 2·80) was left-handed in 20%, normal in 35%, and right-handed in 45%. The nuclear inversion of Velez was only present in 5%, compared with 50% in schizophrenia. There was no difference between acute and chronic cases, or between mania or melancholia. It is likely that this lymphoid tendency represents some constitutional disturbance of the endocrine system.

G. W. T. H. Fleming.

*Blood Studies in Schizophrenia* [*Richerche ematologiche nelle schizofrenie*]. (*Arch. Gen. di Neur. Psich. e Psico, vol. xv, p.* 20, *Jan.*, 1934.) *Jedlowski, P.*

The author studied 171 cases of schizophrenia. In a large proportion of cases he found a marked lymphocytosis and monocytosis and a more or less marked