were etherized cats. The infusion of the extracts was injected by the jugular. The arterial tension was registered by a Hürthle manometer. The extracts increasing the size of the spleen beyond normal were adrenalin, infundibulin, corpus luteum, thymus, orchitic extract, parathyroid and iodothyrin. The extracts diminishing the splenic volume were ovary and pineal. The agent causing large rhythmical contractions of the spleen was splenic extract.

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Metabolism studies in a case of myasthenia gravis.

By THEODORE DILLER, M.D., and JACOB ROSENBLOOM, M.D., Ph.D.

[*From the Wards of the St. Francis Hospital and the Biochemical Laboratory of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa.*]

In an eight-day metabolism study on an individual suffering from myasthenia gravis, we have studied the nitrogen metabolism and urinary nitrogen partition, the sulphur metabolism and urinary sulphur partition, and the calcium, magnesium, phosphorus and fat metabolism. The creatinin, uric acid and neutral sulphur excretions were markedly less than the normal. A considerable loss of calcium was found. The addition of 300 grammes of egg yolk to the diet caused a phosphorus retention, not accompanied by retention of either calcium or magnesium. The fat metabolism was normal.

20 (837)

A case of interpolated extrasystoles in an otherwise normal human heart, illustrated by electrocardiograms.

By M. DRESBACH and S. A. MUNFORD.

[*From the Physiological Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.*]

At the meeting of this Society on October 16, 1912, we presented a case of interpolated extrasystoles in an otherwise normal

human heart, pointing out several interesting features in the polygraphic records of the case. These records were of such a nature that interpretation of them was very difficult and led to doubtful conclusions. Since that meeting we have been fortunate in securing excellent electrocardiograms of this heart through the kindness of Dr. H. B. Williams. These records show that the interpolated beats arise constantly in the right ventricle, and probably in the right branch of the A–V bundle; the curves indicate that the abnormal impulse travels to the basal part of the left ventricle and thence to the apex, and that this path is always the same; there is no evidence of retrogression to the auricle, as was suspected from the mechanical tracings, but there is evidence of depression of the conduction system, for the P–R intervals of normal beats following the extrasystoles are often considerably lengthened (we could not be certain of lengthened As–Vs intervals in the polygrams). Phonocardiograms show divided second sounds produced by the abnormal beats and lengthened first sounds. A few compensating pauses have been seen in the electrocardiograms.

Aside from these new facts about the case, our previous report needs no alteration.

21 (838)

The incidence of cancer in various strains of mice.[1]

By A. E. C. LATHROP and LEO LOEB.

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A number of investigators noticed the repeated occurrence of a particular kind of cancer in animals living either in the same cages or

[1] These investigations are the outcome of plans for research which one of us suggested about seven years ago; on that occasion we pointed out the necessity for the study of possible hereditary and infectious factors in cancer directly in breeding establishments. In accordance with these suggestions our investigations were carried out in conjunction with Miss Lathrop in Granby, Mass., one of the most extensive breeders of mice, who supplied at various times different laboratories in this country with ordinary as well as with tumor mice, and from whom we obtained about seven or eight years ago a mouse with a spontaneous tumor which we have since propagated through many generations of mice and which was used in the majority of our experiments.