

Interest in the Rous chicken tumors has led to discussions in regard to their importance in the general study of malignant growths. The same questions propounded concerning the nature of the chicken tumors will undoubtedly be raised in regard to this rabbit myxoma. Although in this disease of rabbits there are myxomatous growths, the disease picture as a whole more closely resembles infectious processes than it does neoplastic ones. This difference is emphasized by the highly contagious nature of the rabbit disease, a condition never recorded in regard to chicken tumors. The fact that the pathological picture in the epidermis differs so much from the one occurring in the subcutaneous tissues makes the rabbit myxoma an extremely interesting disease. Immediately, one might ask whether more than one virus is being dealt with, inasmuch as it has been shown<sup>5</sup> that some tumors are excellent places for the growth and persistence of certain viruses. This question cannot be answered at the present time.

This is a preliminary report.

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<sup>1</sup> Sanarelli, G., *Centr. Bak., Abt. 1*, 1898, xxiii, 865.

<sup>2</sup> Splendore, A., *Centr. Bak., Abt. 1, Orig.*, 1909, xlviii, 300.

<sup>3</sup> Moses, A., *Mem. Inst. Oswaldo Cruz*, 1911, iii, 46.

<sup>4</sup> da Rocha-Lima, H., v. Prowazek, *Handbuch der pathogenen Protozoen*, 1920, Leipzig, ii, 959.

<sup>5</sup> Rivers, T. M., and Pearce, L., *J. Exp. Med.*, 1925, xlii, 523.

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### Blood Groups Among the Yoruba Tribe of West African Negroes.

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The Yoruba tribe of West African negroes, inhabiting the southwestern portion of Nigeria, W. A., is numerically large, consisting, it is estimated, of 2,000,000 individuals. Its members are distinguished by the tribal mark of three parallel horizontal scars on each cheek. Though this tribal marking has been strictly adhered to in the past, the younger generations are not marking their children in all instances, especially in the more cosmopolitan city of Lagos. The presence of these distinguishing marks was used by us to establish the individual's Yoruban descent.

