11 (103). **"The action of eosin and erythrosin upon snake venom,"** with demonstrations: **HIDEYO NOGUCHI.** (Communicated by **SIMON FLEXNER.**)

The hemolytic principles of venom react differently to eosin depending upon their native labilities. The hemolysin of Crotalus venom suffers most; that of Daboia next, while that of Cobra is the most resistant.

The toxicity of different venoms is more or less diminished by eosin in the light. Cobra is least affected; Crotalus and Daboia venoms are most affected. Crotalus venom loses its toxicity chiefly by destruction of hemorrhagin, and Daboia by destruction of coagulin.

Neurotoxin is little or not at all affected by eosin or erythrosin.

There is a parallel between the susceptibility of the toxic principles of snake venom to fluorescent anilins and to other injurious influences. Hemorrhagin and coagulin are less stable at high temperatures than neurotoxin, and more easily destroyed by acids than neurotoxin and hematoxin.

12 (104). **"On the decomposition of purin bodies by animal tissues": P. A. LEVENE** and **W. A. BEATTY.**

The authors aimed in this work to study the products of decomposition of purin bodies in the tissues. Jones, Schittenhelm and Levene have observed that aminopurins are transformed into oxypurins. It is well known that purin bodies undergo complete destruction in the course of tissue autolysis.

The authors have studied the conditions most favorable for the process of purin decomposition by animal tissues, and have endeavored to ascertain the general nature of the substances formed during the process. It was found that the presence of 0.5 per cent. of sodium carbonate in mixtures of spleen pulp facilitated the decomposition of purin bodies to such an extent that even uric acid was broken up by that tissue. It was also noticed that the decomposition products were nonbasic in nature, for they were not precipitated by phosphotungstic acid. On the decomposition of uric acid by tissue extracts, a formation of ammonia could not be detected.