

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

INDIANAPOLIS.

A meeting of the Indianapolis Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Monday evening, August 6, at 8.00 P.M., in the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce; Mr. F. H. Carter, President, presided.

Mr. C. R. Eckler, of Eli Lilly & Co., spoke on the pituitary body, taking up first the early notions held in regard to its function and importance. One such notion was that the pituitary secreted the mucus which lubricates the nose. The early studies of the internal secreting glands were mentioned, leading up to and including the recent surgical work of Cushing, Bell and others, illustrating the modes of operation. The pituitary is essential for life and proper development. Complete extirpation is always followed by death. The loss of the anterior part is responsible for this fatal result.

The position of the pituitary in the cranial cavity, its bony and membranous protection, the comparative size of the body in different animals, the two lobes and their comparative size and relations were demonstrated on the human skull and on carefully dissected—out brains of several different animals. The genesis of the organ was explained—the posterior lobe developing from one of the ventricles of the brain, the anterior lobe from the roof of the primitive oral cavity. Drawings of histological sections showed the cellular structure of the two lobes and also the inter-

mediate part—a thickening of glandular tissue about the neck and stalk of the posterior lobe, developed from the anterior lobe, and probably furnishing the secretion distributed by the posterior lobe. The conditions of hypopituitarism and hyperpituitarism were discussed and illustrated with plates. The suggested relationship between hypopituitarism and hibernation was mentioned.

Injection of anterior lobe extracts or the feeding of desiccated lobe has not been followed by decisive results. The injection of posterior lobe extracts apparently slows and strengthens the heart, increases the tone of involuntary muscle quite generally except for that of the blood vessels of the kidney, and increases the function of a number of glands such as the mammary, kidney, and liver.

Finally, the uses of posterior lobe extracts in medicine were considered, and the physiological methods of testing such extracts were outlined and illustrated by photographs and drawings.

The following officers were elected: F. H. Carter, President; C. R. Eckler, Vice-President; F. E. Bibbins, Secretary-Treasurer; and the Executive Committee: C. W. Watkins, A. D. Thorburn, E. W. Stucky, M. P. Schwartz and J. W. Stokes. Delegates to the A. Ph. A. are E. E. May, H. W. Rhodehamel and F. B. Fisk.

FRANCIS E. BIBBINS, *Secretary.*

BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

Brazil—To-day and To-morrow. By L. E. Elliott. Literary Editor of the *Pan-American Magazine*. McMillan Co., 1917.

Besides a brief introductory discussion of geographical, geological, climatic, political, and other conditions, the subject matter is divided into eight chapters: I. History of Brazil. II. Colonization. III. Social conditions. IV. Transportation. V. Industries. VI. Finance. VII. Horticultural and Medicinal Plants. VIII. Exterior Commerce. Statistical data on area and population of the different states of Brazil, etc.

In the chapter on industries the reader finds an interesting discussion of Coffee, Cacao, Mate, and especially rubber. The part on medicinal plants, although very brief, contains some valuable data on Ipecac, Copaiba, Guarana, Pilocarpus, Quassia, and other native drugs.

The information given appears to be the result of a thorough study. The book is written in a brilliant style and with fascinating force. It is highly recommended to readers interested in South American Countries.

ARNO VIEHOEVER.