

33.6%. Accentuation of the pulmonic second sound and the presence of marked cyanosis suggest cardiac involvement in pneumoconiosis. In 43 cases examined by electro-cardiograms, 37.2 per cent showed right axis deviation which paralleled the autopsy evidence of right ventricular hypertrophy. Congestive heart failure was a common cause of death in third stage silicotics, more common in this series of cases than tuberculosis, and the findings are in disagreement with the popular concept.

- 24 SILICOSIS AND SILICO-TUBERCULOSIS. F. Domenici. *Folia med.* 24, 289-305 (1938). (Italian).
The author presents the clinical picture and autopsy findings of a powder factory worker who died of silico-tuberculosis. On the basis of the literature he concludes that silicosis and tuberculosis are separate diseases but that they appear together quite frequently.
- 25 THE ENVIRONMENT FACTOR IN RELATION TO HIGH NEGRO TUBERCULOSIS RATES. R.B. Roth. *Am. Rev. Tuberc.* 38, 137-204 (August 1938).
The author reviews the difference in mortality rates between whites and negroes and discusses the views of several authors on the explanation. It is held by some that environment and mental attitude are the determinative factors while others have the opposite view that negroes are more susceptible to the disease. In this discussion, the author presents a study of groups of negroes and whites living in comparable conditions in American enlisted forces. He believes that the environmental factors are minimized because most of the whites come from the lower economic brackets and the medical entrance examinations are the same. A great disparity in rates was found: 0.24 per 1000 for whites and 0.99 per 1000 for negroes or about 1 to 4, which he says, could not be explained except by differences in susceptibility. At the same time, he does not wish to minimize the environmental factor.
- 26 INCIDENCE OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN MINERS. J. Am. Med. Assoc. (Paris Letter 111, 1482 (1938)).
Two doctors report on a study of tuberculosis among coal miners from 1923-37. Among patients in a coal mine company-owned hospital, often one-half of the patients were suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. In the years 1923-37, 28.6 per cent of the hospital deaths were caused by this disease compared to 16.5 per cent for a group of controls of the same age. The 1938 mortality rate for the same district for all non-mining males was 2.4 per 1000 and for coal miners was 3.4 per 1000.
- 27 TUBERCULOSIS IN RELATION TO THE PNEUMOCONIOSES. J.V. Sparks, J. Roy. Inst. Publ. Health & Hyg. 1, 790-7 (October 1938). (British).
The paper discusses the radiological aspects of the subject. It is nearly impossible to recognize with certainty the ante-primary stage of silicosis without the aid of the preliminary film of the same patient. It is difficult to express an opinion on the question of superimposed tuberculosis in the pneumoconioses from radiologic studies. The new method of tomography may yield further help to the clinician in defining the presence and extent of nodulation in silicosis.
- 28 THE CONTROL AND CALIBRATION OF ROENTGENOGRAPHIC APPARATUS. Charles Weyl, S. Reiss Warren, Jr., and D.B. O'Neill. *Am. J. Roentg. & Rad. Ther.* 40, 741-58 (November 1938).
The problem of standardizing roentgenographic technique involves the accurate specification and reproduction of technique. Methods for the fulfillment of these requirements are: (1) Precise control of apparatus and procedure, (2) accurate calibration of technical factors, and (3) use of an aluminum ladder to

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