LEONTIASIS OSSEA*

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THIS case is presented in order to place on record another instance of chronic progressive sclerosing periostitis of the facial bones producing such hyperostoses as to result in the "lion-like" face described by Virchow (1863).

Case Report

A man aged 22 years came under observation in September, 1954, because of a painless and gradually progressive protrusion of the left eyeball, swelling of the left upper eyelid, and prominence of the left side of forehead over a period of 3 years. After December, 1954, the proptosis and the prominence appreciably increased.

Examination.—Local examination revealed proptosis of the left eyeball with downward displacement of the globe. The outer half of the left supra-orbital margin and the lateral ridge of the frontal bone were noticeably thickened (Fig. 1). Vision, ocular movements, and fundi were normal.

General physical examination and the laboratory investigations were negative.

A skiagram done on September 21, 1954, revealed marked sclerosis of the inner table of the frontal bone on the left, the sclerosis extending along the greater wing of the sphenoid (Fig. 2).

FIG. 1.—Left side of forehead, showing proptosis and thickening of frontal bone.

FIG. 2.—Great focal increase in density and actual thickening of left frontal bone in the lateral part of its vertical portion above the orbit.

*Received for publication October 17, 1955.

The optic foramina were normal. X ray of the long bones and the pelvis showed no abnormality.

Summary

A case of localized proliferative osteitis starting in the left frontal bone, is presented as an example of leontiasis ossea circumscripta. The age at onset and the symptom of a painless swelling of one side of the face starting insidiously and progressing slowly to result in proptosis are characteristic.

REFERENCES

VIRCHOW, R. (1863). "Die Krankhaften Geschwülste", vol. 1, p. 312. Hirschwald, Berlin.

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BILATERAL DISLOCATION OF THE LENS*

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DAS GUPTA (1955) described an interesting case of bilateral dislocation of lenses under voluntary control.

A similar case has been seen by the writer in a patient, who was a clerk, in whom both lenses moved into the anterior chamber when he bent his head to wash his face. He could manipulate the lenses behind the pupils by bending his head back. He said he was more comfortable when the lenses were in the anterior chamber and actually saw better with the aphakic glasses which he generally used in his office. Ordinarily the lenses slipped back behind the pupils when he went to sleep. In the morning he made a deliberate attempt while washing his face to put the lenses into the anterior chamber. He had been working like that for several years and had no trouble with his eyesight.

He was observed for a period of 3 years and there were no signs of any irritation due to the presence of the lenses in the anterior chamber, and it was thought better to leave the lenses in their voluntary wandering position. This case was previously referred to in a description of a family with ectopia lentis (Mitter, 1944).

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*Received for publication October 9, 1955.