

Section of Dermatology

President—SYDNEY THOMSON, M.D.

[January 16, 1947]

Lichen Planus in a Boy Aged 8 Years.—H. CORSI, F.R.C.S.

Duration two months. Eruption typical lichen planus.

There are no symptoms other than some itching after a bath.

Dr. H. W. Barber: Some years ago the children's nurse of a well-known surgeon consulted me for a severe and very widespread lichen planus. She asked me whether there was any risk of contagion to the infant she was tending. I replied that, although I believed the disease to be due to a virus infection, I had not met with an instance of apparent contagion. A few months later I saw the infant in question and it had quite typical lichen planus from which it made a spontaneous recovery. Considering the rarity of lichen planus in infants, I think this was probably a genuine example of contagion.

Hyperkeratotic Systematized Nævus with ? Bromide Eruption.—A. HARGREAVES, M.B. (for W. N. GOLDSMITH, M.D.).

Miss E. F., aged 52.

History.—At the age of 3 months, red patches were noticed on the skin, attributed at first to teething or vaccination. Generalized thickening and dark scaling of the skin were noted at about 1 year of age. The face, at first affected with the rest of the body, became clearer, while the legs got progressively worse and became painful; from time to time great lumps of skin separated from them. The pain was worse when she was lying than when sitting.

She attended school up to the age of 15, and apparently made average progress. Menstruation began at 16, and was normal until two or three years ago. Apart from self-administered aspirin, she had had no treatment, and washing had been minimal. On November 25, 1946, she was admitted to University College Hospital.

On admission.—The whole of her skin except the face and scalp was dry and rough. In many areas, especially the lower limbs and feet and hands, it was warty, the papilliform projections being in some parts acuminate and in others more rounded (mammillated). The palms and soles were greatly thickened, but smooth. On the upper limbs there was hypertrichosis (fig. 1). On the legs the papillomatous overgrowth reached an extreme degree, large fleshy red vegetations being covered by