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THE ADRENAL CORTEX OF SERUM HORSES
—ON HISTOPATHOLOGICAL FINDINGS—

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(Summary of Master's thesis directed by Dr. S. YAMAGIWA)

The cortex of the adrenal glands from thirty-eight serum horses (5~18 years of age) which were autopsied in 1941 and 1942 (in wartime) in the Institute for Infectious Disease, Tokyo University, Tokyo, Japan, were examined histopathologically. There were such circumstances as that the animals, prior to developing completion of immunity, had died or unavoidably had to be slaughtered showing for the most part excessive general exhaustion, cardiac weakness, difficulty in standing, etc. The animals had already exhibited poor condition of nutrition at the very beginning of the process of gaining immunity; they had been subjected to exceedingly unsatisfactory feeding and management throughout the entire period of the process of gaining immunity in their lifetime. By means of histopathological examination of other organs, diagnosis of infectious anemia was given to 17 cases out of these 38 serum horses.

In addition, by means of section preparations of the adrenal glands from 36 slaughtered horses (5~18 years of age), histological aspects of the cortex were observed.

The serum horses included only 6 cases in which parenchymatous cells in the zona fasciculata and reticularis of the adrenal cortex almost entirely consisted of light ones; on the contrary, there were 18 cases (including 14 died cases) in which parenchymatous cells almost entirely consisted of dark ones. In the majority of the serum horse cases, existence of the zona glomerulosa was grossly indistinct.