UNUSUAL PRESENTATION OF PROSTATIC CARCINOMA

By *P. McLean, F.R.C.S.I., Research Assistant and Surgical Tutor, Department of Urology, Jervis Street Hospital, and A. Walsh, F.R.C.S.I., Consultant Urologist.

Carcinoma of the prostate is the commonest tumour of the male urinary tract. Its incidence in males over the age of 50 would appear to be 20 per cent, taking the average of twenty published series dating back to 1935. A characteristic of this lesion is the widespread distribution of its metastases, hence bizarre symptomatology is always to be kept in mind. In the case reported here the presenting symptom was testicular retraction with scrotal elephantiasis. It, therefore, seemed justified to publish the present case.

Case Report

A 66 year-old carpenter was referred to the Urological Clinic in August, 1961. He complained that over the past three years his testes had gradually retracted upwards out of his scrotum and also in the past nine months his scrotum had so swollen that his penis was disappearing into it. He had no other complaints and had no previous illnesses.

On examination the positive clinical findings included marked scrotal elephantiasis; the penis was being completely dwarfed by the scrotal swelling; the testes, which felt...
normal, were situated at the external inguinal ring on each side. There was no evidence
of ankle oedema. Rectal examination was negative.

Laboratory Data:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haemoglobin</td>
<td>9 Gs.%</td>
<td>W.S.R. 22 m.m./hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urine</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Serum Proteins—total 6.2 Grams %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electrophoresis showed slight increase in the gamma globulin, otherwise
normal pattern.

Blood Urea 40 mgs % W.R. Negative.

An intravenous pyelogram showed a hydronephrotic left kidney (Fig. 1). There
was marked osteosclerosis of the lumbar vertebral column. Fig. II shows the same
osteosclerotic process involving the pelvic girdle, with an osteoparotic pattern of the
upper thirds of the femoral shafts. Metabolic studies included serum calcium (serial)
—6.4 mgs %. This hypocalcaemia, in the presence of normal serum proteins, was