I have almost invariably found some trouble of the nose, throat, or ear. Rhinitis is a very common ailment amongst them, and it seems probable that when the Eustachian Tube is unhealthy, and when the patient is exposed to air currents of varying density, that the semi-circular cells must become affected. Thus I found a candidate who was 'turned down' by his instructor because he had a tendency to 'swing round' his machine, and because he could not accurately estimate his position in rotation to the ground, had really a blocked left nostril and ear. Another candidate was denounced as 'funker'—most horrible of charges—because, although always ready to go into the air when accompanied by his instructor, he got nervous, giddy, and lost control in a few moments when, after the usual number of lessons, he was sent up alone. This poor lad I found to have sinusitis and hay fever, which doubtless prevented that muscular co-ordination and that mental concentration which is essential to the aviator. Inasmuch as several of these teachers had themselves hay fever, and some of them even considered that the higher air improved it, they could not conceive that it might be a hindrance to a young, nervy, and untried man.

"One evening, an instructor complained to me bitterly of the stupidity of one of his pupils. At that moment the pupil—who had received the orthodox amount of training for the purpose—was flying alone. The instructor assured me that the pupil would probably break up the machine. He was perfectly right. Five minutes after the pupil descended, breaking up the machine in an awkward effort to land. As a kind of contemptuously superfluous afterthought, the pupil was sent to me next morning for a report. He had a badly ruptured tympanum; he had an enlarged tonsil; he had nasal stenosis; he had vertigo; he had enormous varicose veins in both legs. Doubtless he had various other ailments, but life is too short to pick them out."

"Bleeding from the nose and gums is not so common as one would anticipate. Headache and pressure on the ears are complained of on the downward journey, and not on ascent. Some airmen bleed, or ooze a noxious discharge from their gums every time they go up. One such complained to me lately, and a Medical Board decided he was unfit to fly. The hæmorrhagic oozing from the gums appears to be associated with a condition that causes some intracranial oozing and induces giddiness."

"To ascertain the type of man – or, the type of abnormality or disease—which makes such a man so much the victim of his nerves that he is gripped with fright—like a hare on which an eagle swoops—that he cannot co-ordinate his faculties to wrest himself from destruction. Training clearly can do much, but certain physical imperfections of the nose, throat, ears, Eustachian Tube, and semi-circular canals seem to me to be most often associated with the man who gets gripped with air fear. Some of us are so particularly prone to become obsessed with views as to the importance of certain abnormalities, that it becomes difficult to take a detailed view, but I do not remember a man who was considered an unsuccessful flyer but in whom some such an abnormality could be demonstrated."—CAPT. J. C. MCWALTER, *The Medical Press and Circular*, September 19, 1917.

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Three Clinical Studies in Tuberculous Predisposition. By *W. R. Rivers, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.* London: George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 1917.

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