Extraspinal meningocele in the upper lumbar or thoracic region are a great rarity. Pohl reported a meningocele in the thoracic cavity in a 47-year-old woman. On the basis of roentgenological examination of the chest, the patient was thought to have a neurofibroma. At operation, however, a large sac of spinal fluid was found in the thoracic cavity communicating through an opening, 2 cm. in diameter, with the spinal canal at the level of the 4th thoracic vertebra. The patient unfortunately developed an empyema and died. At autopsy a synostosis of the 3rd thoracic vertebra was found. The intervertebral canal at that level was widened and communicated through a walnut-sized hole presumably at the intervertebral foramen with the meningocele in the chest.

Ameuille, Wilmoth and Kudelski reported a somewhat similar case in 1940. In both of these cases the meningocele within the thoracic cage was found by roentgenography of the chest. In the case reported here the paraspinal meningocele was present in the lumbar region and a visible, palpable mass was present in the loin.
**FIG. 1.** Roentgenograms of the lumbosacral spine to show: A, The deformation and displacement of the four upper lumbar transverse processes to the lateral margin of the cyst; B, the upward and lateral displacement of the left kidney by the mass; C, the cyst outlined by air with the vestigial transverse processes lying along the lateral margin of the cyst; D, pantopaque injected intrathecally within the cyst.

**CASE REPORT**

A 32-year-old Negro soldier was admitted on April 23, 1945, to Ashford General Hospital, complaining of pain in the lower portion of the back, headache when bending over and suddenly raising up, and a slightly tender mass in the left loin. The patient stated that he was quite well until May 1944 when he sustained a crushing injury to his back as the result of being caught between a tractor and a truck. At that time he was admitted to a hospital. On two occasions he was said to have had bloody urine. After 10 days' hospitalization he was returned to duty, but in February 1945 he complained of backache, and pain at the base of the