

so-called thyroidism were absent, viz., headache and rheumatic pains. For these reasons the author seems justified in looking on the case as one of Basedow's disease due to excessive thyroid consumption. A symptomatic Basedow's disease on the basis of a thyroiditis seems negated by the absence of fever and local signs. The article ends with a theoretical discussion of the nature of Basedow's disease, in which nothing new is brought out, but which covers the previous literature quite thoroughly.

Beri-beri in Sucklings.—HIROTA (*Centralblatt f. inn. Med.*, 1898, No. 16) has made an important observation on a disease in infants nursed by mothers with beri-beri. It has been thought that beri-beri never occurred in children before the second dentition. The author, however, has been able to see fifty-two cases of the affection in infants of from one to thirteen months. All were nursed by women with beri-beri. Five died, five more could not be followed up. Medicines had no effect on the symptoms, but all the cases that recovered did so within a few days after the patients were put on cow's milk, condensed milk, or nursed by healthy women. From the rapidity of the improvement it could hardly be thought that the symptoms were due to anything but an intoxication from the milk. A comparison of the symptoms shows a close resemblance with those of beri-beri in the adult. Diarrhœa, uncommon in adults with beri-beri, was sometimes present, and the indican reaction almost always present in beri-beri was absent (perhaps on account of the diarrhœa). The author looks on these observations as proving that beri-beri is the result of an intoxication, although he has been unable to find the toxic substance.

Valsalva's Experiment in Open Pneumothorax after Costal Resection as a Measure of the Expansibility of the Lungs.—REINEBOTH has made some interesting experiments on this subject, taking sphygmograms while the patient made expiratory efforts with the mouth and nose [or the glottis] closed. A number of clinical histories are cited, with tracings, which indicate that the method may have considerable prognostic value. In order to obtain trustworthy results it is essential that the resection opening permits the passage of air, and cannot be closed by the lung or diaphragm. In case of pneumothorax of large size the sphygmogram taken during Valsalva's experiment will not show the usual rise of venous congestion if there is a large fistulous opening between the bronchial tree and the pleura, or if the affected lung is capable of expansion. If we can exclude the first possibility the method indicates whether the lung is impossible or difficult to expand. From the author's results the method seems more reliable than the manometric one, or that by filling the cavity with water.—*Deutsches Archiv f. klin. Med.*, Bd. 60, p. 111.

The Blood Changes in Typhoid Fever.—KÖLNER (*Deutsches Archiv f. klin. Med.*, Bd. 60, p. 221) has made extensive examinations which confirm a number of previous observations and clear up certain contradictions. The author is at times too optimistic. He thinks the leucocyte count is of value in distinguishing typhoid fever from general miliary tuberculosis, but both Cabot and Warthin have shown that the latter disease, like typhoid fever,