

## DISEASES OF THE LARYNX AND CONTIGUOUS STRUCTURES.

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UNDER THE CHARGE OF  
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**Micro-organisms in the Mouths and Throats of Healthy Persons.**—In a study of the nature of micro-organisms found in the mouths and throats of healthy persons J. B. RUCKER, JR. (*Univ. Penna. Med. Bull.*, October 1906) reports a series of observations on twenty individuals who considered themselves in good health. He found streptococci and diplococci in all of them. *Streptococcus mucosus* was found in 70 per cent.; atypical pneumococcus in 50 per cent.; and typical pneumococcus in 25 per cent. It was learned that organisms of the same species may behave differently in their action on starch if the organisms are from different sources.

**Tonsillitis.**—In a paper on "The Relation between Tonsillitis and Acute Articular Rheumatism with Particular Reference to the Prophylaxis of Postanginal Rheumatism" (*Amer. Med.*, September, 1906) CHARLES F. KIEFFER, U. S. A., reports unusual success from a routine treatment as follows: A full mercurial purge on admission; gargling or spraying the throat with a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate, followed immediately by the application of finely powdered aspirin to the tonsils. These applications are made thrice daily. In the series of cases thus treated the duration of the disease was but three days and not one instance of rheumatism developed.

**Tuberculous Tumor at the Vault of the Pharynx.**—SCHILLING (*Verhandlungen des Vereins Sddeut. Laryng.*, 1906) reports a case of tuberculous tumor in a healthy patient, aged fifty years, with normal lungs. The growth was removed with the incandescent snare, and a recurrence half a year later was destroyed with the galvanocautic burner in two sittings. Schilling states that he has read of but two similar cases in literature, both reported by KOSCHIER (*Wien. klin. Woch.*, 1895).

**Rupture of the Œsophagus into the Pleural Cavity.**—THOMAS H. POTTER (*Amer. Med.*, September, 1906) reports a case of a man, aged forty-four years, who, after partaking of a liberal amount of whisky, beer, and free lunch, was suddenly attacked with a sharp pain in the precordial area, extreme physical weakness, and unquenchable thirst. In about three hours emphysema was noted at the root of the neck, and it rapidly extended over the chest, face, and arms. Death ensued eleven hours after the onset. The autopsy revealed three small ulcers, with rupture of the Œsophagus at the site of one of them. The conclusions drawn