administered in the presence of a severe infectious disease. While in the earlier period of its employment untoward symptoms and even death might be explained away on the ground of toxic substances not related to the antitoxin being present, and even later, that while the horse could not be eliminated in its preparation, minor unpleasant manifestations would appear, at the present there is no reason that antitoxin *quoad* antitoxin should not stand or fall on its own merits. The enormous clinical experience of those who are now prominent in such discussions as this cannot be ignored, and their evidence must be accepted as indicating the turning of the tide.—R. W. W.]

The Therapeutic Indications of *Cannabis Indica*.—DR. H. EDWIN LEWIS finds in pain not due to distinct pathological lesions the chief indication. In migraine, hemicrania, the various neuralgias, and the headaches due to eye-strain it may be used with marked success. In the pain of multiple neuritis and tabes dorsalis it is one of the best of anodynes, and to relieve the chest pains of phthisis it is often very serviceable. In the various neuroses accompanying pregnancy and the climacteric, and the particularly violent nerve storms of the artificial menopause, it is satisfactory. Dysmenorrhoea not due to anatomical or inflammatory causes is promptly relieved, with few after-effects. Impotence, more or less complete, which is due to urethral hyperaesthesia, is certainly benefited by the sedative or analgesic action. In several instances of diabetes mellitus improvement has followed. It will relieve the intolerable itching and burning of various skin neuroses. The dose is one-fourth to one grain of the assayed solid extract. A quarter of a grain may be repeated every one, two, or three hours as required.—*Merck's Archives*, 1900, No. 7, p. 247.

Hedonal.—DRS. NAWRATZKI and ARNDT state that the ideal hypnotic should act promptly and safely, be of pleasant taste, soluble in practicable media, adapted to subcutaneous injection (if needed), be devoid of subjective and objective untoward phenomena, and of moderate price. Recalling the ethyl-urethane of Schmiedeberg, it is believed that by the introduction of the higher alcohol in place of the ethyl radical a more intensive hypnotic action might be obtained. This substance, which is methyl-propyl-carbinol-urethane, appears as colorless crystals of a peculiar, burning, peppermint-like taste, insoluble in cold water, but soluble up to 2 per cent. in water at 122° F. It is soluble in 50 per cent. alcohol. It is suggested that it may be administered in warm milk. The dose varies from seven to thirty or even forty-five grains. After the last-named dose sleep follows in about thirty minutes and lasts from two to nine hours without interruption. On awakening there is generally a marked desire to urinate. In fact, the drug is diuretic; so much so that sleep may be interrupted. There is no change in the pulse, respiration, or temperature.—*Therapeutische Monatshefte*, 1900, Heft vii., S. 372.

Lobar Pneumonia Treated with Silver Salts.—DOTT. CACCIANIGA reports the results of treatment in 112 patients suffering from acute lobar pneumonia. Two and one-half to three grains of silver nitrate, divided into

five pills, are taken daily, or it may be administered in mucilage. In three epidemics the mortality with this method was 17 per cent.; with others, 28 per cent. Of forty-seven patients (sporadic) but three died, viz., 6.3 per cent.

DOTT. COMINI had successfully treated five out of six patients with silver salts; the sixth was treated by other methods and died.—*Gazzetta degli Ospedali e delle Cliniche*, 1900, No. 84, p. 867.

Cod-liver Oil Injections for Tuberculosis.—DR. W. ZENNER has employed the following formula for rectal injection: Purified pancreatin, 10; inspissated ox-gall, 1; sodium chlorate, 3; dissolved in water, 100; and allowed to digest for two hours with cod-liver oil, 500, to which a few drops of the ethereal oil of eucalyptus are added. The bowel is cleansed by enema, and from two to three ounces of this emulsion, previously warmed, is inserted through a rectal tube each night, the patient being in the knee-elbow position. This formula is based upon the observation of various authorities, and is designed to possess easy absorbability and high nutritive value.—*Therapeutische Monatshefte*, 1900, Heft 6, S. 305.

The Treatment of Gastric Disease.—DR. C. LYON protests against the use of chemical means in the treatment of gastropathies. He submits that (1) the action of drugs, for example, the alkalies and acids, does not always agree with physiological teaching, and, further, even physiologists are not in harmony concerning the action of these drugs. (2) An improper course is taken in attempting to treat patients solely upon the basis of a hyperchlorhydria or hypochlorhydria which may appear on analysis. (3) The therapeutic results were especially satisfactory when a severe regimen was prescribed to the exclusion of all systematic medication. (4) There is no different regimen for each variety of disease; but, in fact, the same can be instituted in the great majority of instances. The secret of success lies in assuring, at the outset, rest for the stomach by a restricted diet of one or several types of food, according to the case, and then gradually returning to normal diet. (5) Physical means are adjuncts of the first rank, and in the vast majority of instances they assure cure. They are rest, hydrotherapy in different forms, massage, and lavage of the intestine. The opinion is offered that inert powders intended as a "dressing" for the mucous membrane irritate the stomach, and on that account should be excluded.—*Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-chirurgicale*, 1900, No. 14, p. 179.

Treatment of Gastric Ulcer.—DR. L. BOURGET reports upon eighty-eight patients who have been under his care. Whether hemorrhage has taken place or not the stomach contents are removed by the stomach-tube, and then washed with about three ounces of water; next, from three to five ounces of a 2 per cent. solution of ferric chloride, to which one-half of 1 per cent. of potassium chlorate has been added, are placed in the stomach by the tube and removed at once. The procedure is repeated until about thirty ounces of the solution have been employed. Lastly, about two ounces of the solution are kept in the stomach, and the patient lies upon his abdomen. Five minutes later a glass of a 2 per cent. solution of sodium bicarbonate is taken into the stomach to insure the precipitation of the iron