discontinued after they have been employed for five or six weeks, the baths are then given three times weekly, and the iodides are employed in the dose of 0.5 to 4.0 grams three times daily. Water from a sulphur spring may be advantageously administered during the "cure."

Tschiriew's treatment of tabes consists of douches, electrization of the spinal cord, medulla oblongata and urogenital apparatus, applications of the Pacquelin cautery along the spine, etc. SPILLER.

236. THE PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF EXTRACTS OF THE PITUITARY BODY. E. A. Schäfer and Swale Vincent (*Journal of Physiology* 25, 1899, p. 87.)

The authors believe that there are specific, active substances in the infundibular part of the pituitary body and conclude from a series of experiments that:

(1) Extracts of the pituitary body, when intravenously injected, have a marked effect upon the blood pressure, producing, according to the nature of the extract, either a marked rise or a marked fall. The pituitary body contains, therefore, two active substances, one *pressor* and the other *depressor*. Of these the pressor substance is soluble in salt solution and insoluble in absolute alcohol and ether; the depressor substance is soluble in salt solution, in absolute alcohol, and in ether. The active substances are not destroyed by boiling and are dialysable.

(2) The pressor substance produces its action both upon the heart and upon the peripheral arteries. (The action of the pressor substance is a prolonged one, and during the period of its action a second dose is inactive, or nearly so.) The action of the depressor substance is evanescent and can be repeated at short intervals.

(3) The pressor effect of the extract may be accompanied by cardiac slowing. This is probably in large part incidental to the contraction of arterioles and rise of aortic pressure, but is in part due to direct action upon the peripheral mechanism.

(4) The active substances are contained only in the infundibular, not in the hypophysial, part of the pituitary body.

(5) Subcutaneous injection of the extracts in small mammals causes paralytic symptoms similar to those obtained by injecting suprarenal extracts.

(6) The characteristic effects produced by extracts of the infundibular body are probably not due to the gray nervous matter of which this is largely composed. JELLIFFE.

237. MYXEDEMA TREATED WITH "COLLOID" MATERIAL. Robert J. M. Buchanan (*British Medical Journal*, No. 2007; June 17th, 1899, p. 1460).

A man of fifty-four years who had presented the symptoms of myxedema for a period of two years or more was treated with Oppeheimer's "palatinoids" of thyroid "colloid."

Treatment was begun with one palatinoid at night which was gradually increased to four in twenty-four hours, and then reduced to two a day, and later to one a day. There were no symptoms of thyroïdism, and at the end of five months the patient was considered to be entirely normal in every respect. He continues to take one or two of the palatinoids daily.

For a full account of the chemistry and preparation see *British Medical Journal* of March 21st, 1896; January 23d, 1897, and February 17th, 1897; *Journ. Physiol.*, Vol. XX, p. 474. PATRICK.