- "Flor. Cong."—The Fifth International Congress of Otology, Florence, September, 1895.
"Fr. Soc."—The French Society for Laryngology and Otology.
"L."—"Lancet."
"A. of O."—"Archives of Otology."
"Aust. Ot. Soc."—Austrian Otological Society.
"Hung. O. and L. Soc."—Hungarian Otological and Laryngological Society.
"Dutch Soc."—Dutch Society of Laryngology, Rhinology, and Otology.
"M. f. O."—"Monatschrift für Ohrenheilkunde."
"Belg. Soc."—Belgian Society of Otology and Laryngology.
"Par. Soc."—Parisian Society of Otology and Laryngology.
"Germ. O. S."—German Otological Society.
"Arch. Ital."—"Archivii Italiano di Otolgia."
"Ann. des Mal."—"Annales des Maladies de l'Oreille, de la Gorge," etc.
"B. L. R. A."—British Laryngological, etc., Association.
"Arch. Inter."—"Archives Internationales de Laryngologie," etc.
"Am. L., R., O. Soc."—American Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Society.
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X RAYS IN OUR SPECIAL DEPARTMENT.

BY J. MACINTYRE, M.B., F.R.S.

This new force, which has attracted so much attention, has been applied to the diagnosis of affections in our special department. While photography was at first employed, it soon became evident that fluorescent screens would, in some instances at least, be of great value. As in many other departments, it was first employed to detect the presence of foreign bodies; in March of the present year the methods had been so much improved that shadows of metallic objects could be seen through the trunk. (Macintyre, British Laryngological Association, April, 1896, a shadow of a coin in the gullet opposite the third dorsal vertebra, seen first on the fluorescent screen, and afterwards photographed). White, later on in the year, described a similar case in the "Annals of Surgery" for 1896. The application of the rays was tried in the soft tissues, and at the same meeting above referred to a photograph through the side of the living neck was shown, on which one could see the base of the tongue, hyoid bone, epiglottis, arytenoid cartilages, spine, cavity of the pharynx, and entrance to the trachea. Rowland and Waggett have also published papers on this subject (Lond. Laryng. Soc.), "Brit. Med. Journ.," 10th April, 1896). The hard tissues of the face, such as the superior and inferior maxillaries and the accessory cavities, have also been seen in shadow and photographed. In one case destruction of the hard tissues from malignant disease was clearly made out. Deformities in the cervical region causing disturbance in the region of the throat, enlargement of the heart, and even the sacs of aneurism have all been demonstrated, either by means of photography or the potassium or barium platino-cyanide screen. Focus tubes for the mouth have been suggested by Thomson, Newton, and others. Fluorescent screens have likewise been made for placing within the buccal cavity. These have been

devised with a view to the detection of changes in the teeth, contents of the nostrils, deviations of the structure in the maxillary bones, and the seat of foreign bodies in the throat and nose. With improvements in the apparatus and greater force at our disposal, Prof. Röntgen's great discovery promises to do more than was at first anticipated in the diagnosis of affections of the upper respiratory tract.

THYROID, ETC.

BY A. H. ROBINSON, M.D.

The therapeutical treatment of enlargements of the thyroid glands and certain allied conditions has been pursued during the past year with very marked results. A large number of such cases have been placed on record and the various methods adopted set forth. Those methods have included the ingestion of the substance of the thyroid body and the thymus gland of the sheep. Extracts of those organs have also been used in a dry form and in alcohol-glycerine. Finally, the tabloids so much in vogue have been largely employed. The effects produced by these various preparations in nearly all the cases reported have been as striking as ever, but have not, however, proved in any appreciable degree more permanent in character than in others previously recorded.

The inevitable relapse so often chronicled has in very many instances been in evidence. Whatever the precise method of treatment made use of, the parenchymatous forms of the disease are those which have proved most amenable. In myxœdema there has been either a proneness to recurrence when the remedy has been discontinued or it has altogether resisted the action of the remedy employed. Thymus gland, which appears to have been chiefly used in exophthalmic goître, follows the same rule—more or less early improvement, followed by rapid recurrence of symptoms on cessation of the use of the gland, being the rule.

In McKie's ("B. M. J." March 14, 1896) case treated thus, where there was practically no enlargement of the thyroid, but only marked exophthalmos, this latter symptom was markedly relieved. Unfortunately, however, it tended to recur when the thymus tabloids employed were withheld.

In other cases of similar nature thyroid extract was exhibited with permanent improvement, even cure resulting. In one such, however, the symptoms had ensued after the performance of ovariectomy, and were so much exaggerated when the thyroid extract was made use of that its discontinuance became imperative. This was one of a series of interesting cases of Graves' disease reported by this writer ("Am. Med. Surg. Bull.," July 11, 1896).

In a case of goître occurring in the practice of Angerer ("Munch. Med. Woch.," 4, 1896), death occurred soon after the use of thyroid extract was commenced, and was due, in the opinion of that observer, to heart paralysis, which again he attributed entirely to the action of the remedy. A similar result was observed in a case of myxœdema complicated with angina pectoris, reported by Morris ("Lancet," Sept. 24, 1895), minus the fatal termination. The patient was a man, forty-eight years of age. So