bacteria. The compounds of guaiacol with the products of bacteria are readily acted upon by the oxygen of the blood, so that the guaiacol, together with the sulphur of the albumin molecule, is deposited out of the compound, and is oxidized to guaiacol sulphate, while the remainder of the albumin molecule is still further decomposed. These products are removed from the blood chiefly by the kidneys. In addition to the internal administration, external applications of equal parts of olive oil and guaiacol are painted over the affected joints each night. This produces numbness, later coolness, relieves pain, and later lowers joint-temperature. If the smell is objected to, 1 or 2 per cent. of oil of cloves may be added. The strength of the guaiacol may be increased, but if too strong it may blister, which, however, produces no evil effects. One instance only of its use is reported in full.—*Edinburgh Medical Journal*, 1898, No. 1, p. 60.

Pilocarpine.—DR. EDWARD F. WILLOUGHBY states that this is one of those drugs the full effects of which can only be obtained when they are injected subcutaneously. When thus administered the action is prompt and palpable; that of repeated internal doses, many times greater than the former, is uncertain and slow to such an extent as to take away all confidence. Indeed, it seems that alarming cardiac depression may be brought on without any previous perceptible diaphoresis. If a continued perspiration, and the consequent fall of temperature following on the lowering of the heart's action, and the general arterial tension be required, it is best to use aconite; but when prompt and energetic action is desired pilocarpine presents indisputable advantages. Instances of its use in pneumonia, insomnia, and lumbago are cited. Should, however, the action of so powerful a drug, from whatever cause, prove excessive and give rise to alarming or unpleasant effects, we have in atropine an absolute physiological antidote, no less prompt in its action. In an instance reported the evil effects from one-sixth grain of pilocarpine were speedily neutralized by the subcutaneous injection of one-fiftieth grain of atropine.—*The Therapist*, 1898, No. 3, p. 56.

Treatment of Erysipelas.—DR. FRANK PARSONS NORBURY for local application prefers the combination of camphor and carbolic acid in about equal parts, which is antiseptic, but not escharotic. This allays the burning and soothes the irritation. The skin must be thoroughly cleansed before its application, and it should be used thoroughly and frequently and ahead of the line of demarcation. Ichthyol is useful as: Ichthyol, 1; ether, 1; in flexible collodion, 2; which is applied with a camel's-hair brush. Regular feeding at short intervals with highly nutritious but easily digested food is of importance. Milk, eggs, and beef peptonoids are to be recommended. All severe cases require alcoholic stimulation in ample amount. An aged person bears coffee well, taken hot at frequent intervals. For the restlessness and insomnia, sodium bromide in twenty-grain doses may be given as often as necessary. If delirium is present the fluid extract of hyoscyamus, with sufficient cannabis indica to obtain its sedative effect, is useful.—*Medical Fortnightly*, 1898, No. 8, p. 223.