sodium carbonate to which a solution of sulphuric acid is added just before fastening the cover on the jar. The tubes are placed in the jar before the acid solution is added.

For the detection of streptococcus hemolyticus carriers the standard method adopted by the Medical Department of the Army has been used with very satisfactory results.²

For the type determination of pneumococci Avery's medium has been used as a routine. The type as determined by this method has corresponded with the type as determined by positive blood cultures (ante- and post-mortem) in 19 out of 20 cases, or 95%, checked in this way. This medium serves equally well for the growth of the streptococcus hemolyticus which occurs so frequently in broncho-pneumonia.

Finally, by the proper standardization and systematization of all work a maximum of such work may be accomplished with a minimum of personnel and equipment. The adoption of standard routine methods to be followed in all examinations is highly desirable and produces the best efficiency.

2. Methods for the Isolation and Identification of Streptococcus Hemolyticus. Adopted by the Medical Department of the U. S. Army, June 1, 1918.

AUTHORS' ABSTRACTS

Medicine

Effect of Lemon Juice in Pellagra. J. N. Roussel, New Orleans, La. New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal, Vol. 71, No. 6, p. 283.

Roussel is of the opinion that pellagra, as it is seen in the South, is nothing more than scurvy.

It is probably brought about by the fact that most people in pellagrous districts live literally out of tin cans. With this idea in view, he gave lemon juice to his pellagrins with most astounding results. They all recovered in less than a month. The whole juice of the lemon must be used, not citric acid.

The skin lesions require no special treatment, neither does the nervous apparatus except in very bad cases. Castor oil every other day was used to check the diarrhea instead of astringents.

The Complement Fixation Test for Syphilis. M. H. Neill, Washington, D. C. Public Health Reports, Reprint No. 482, Vol. 33, No. 34, August 23, 1918, pp. 1387-1398.

This article is devoted entirely to technique and will be of interest only to laboratory workers. The article contributes no new "improve-

ment" nor "modification" of the Wassermann test, but attempts to present the methods used at the Hygienic Laboratory of the Public Health Service in sufficient detail to insure uniform results by workers living in different sections of the country and working under various conditions.

The subjects of apparatus, reagents, their preparation, preservation and quantitative estimation are dealt with in considerable detail.

In the test itself, the anti-sheep hemolytic system is used. The complement is titrated each day against a mixture of dilute standard amboceptor and fresh sheep cells. Two units of complements are used in the tests, acetone-insoluble lipoids from beef heart are used in as antigen. Two-tenths c. c. of the patient's serum are used in the test and 0.4 c. c. in the anticomplementary control tube. After the preliminary incubation in a 37° C. water bath for one hour, 1 c. c. of the sheep cell amboceptor mixture used in titrating the complement is added to all the tubes and the tubes again incubated. Final readings are made after keeping the tubes in a cool place overnight. The final volume in all tubes is 4 c. c.

The Prophylaxis of Hay Fever. Harold C. Lane, Denver, Colo. New York Medical Journal, Vol. CVIII, No. 20, November, 1918, p. 859.

Bostock's summer catarrh, or true hay fever, is very difficult to cure. Adrenalin and the various pollen extracts and antigens give some relief; but as a rule, eventually the recurrence of hay fever appears. In addition to pollen extracts, pure white petrolatum is a valuable adjuvant if used daily. It should be liberally inserted in the nostrils, smeared on the roof of the mouth and rubbed on the inner and outer canthus of both eyes. It has a soothing influence and allays the irritation. This procedure is preferably carried out just before retiring. If the attack is very severe one grain of powdered pantopon may be used. The powder is thoroughly mixed with the petrolatum. This remedy seems to give great relief. Another important measure to observe is the brushing of the teeth. The ordinary tooth powders and pastes are best discontinued during the course of the disease, as it is known that they contain antiseptics which are irritating to the mucous membranes when they are in the inflamed abnormal state during hay fever. It has been proven that the weakest solutions of antiseptics will cause an attack of sneezing and all the other uncomfortable symptoms accompanying the disease. In brushing the teeth the patient should not try to brush the posterior borders, as the mucous membrane of the gums in this area are hypersensitive and often the mere touch of the tooth brush ushers in the dreaded attack.

Clinical Observations in Splachnuoptosis. George L. Lambright, Cleveland, O. New York Medical Journal, Vol. CVII, No. 22, November, 1918, p. 939.

Placed organs may be broadly classified into congenital and acquired, but an excellent working arrangement is as follows: (1) One or more organs are displaced and the individual enjoys