

affecting horses, and more rarely cattle, in Manila, which was at first taken for farcy, the cutaneous form of glanders. The disease starts as a slight abrasion in the skin and spreads along the lymphatics, forming subsequently abscesses in the glands. It may secondarily reach the nares, but never occurs there primarily. It is not usually fatal. On microscopic examination the etiological factor is found to be a blastomyces, which is grown with difficulty on artificial media and will reproduce the characteristic lesion in monkeys. The causative organism is not to be mistaken for the mould fungus causing "bursattee" in India, but is closely allied in all probability to the "saccharomyces farcinomus" described by Tokishiga as the cause of lymphangitis in epizootica in Japan. The treatment recommended is the cleansing of the skin with some antiseptic solution and opening of the tumors, followed by curetting and irrigation.—F. P. G.

The Serumtherapy of Typhoid Fever.—CHANTEMESSE (*La Presse Médicale*, 1902, vol. ii., No. 103, p. 1227) presents a carefully tabulated account of the percentage of mortality in cases of typhoid fever in Paris during twenty months, which have received the ordinary medical treatment, including cold baths, in comparison with the cases treated by antityphoid serum and cold baths. In the General Paris Hospital the number of cases under ordinary treatment was 1192 with 286 deaths, that is, a mortality of 19.3 per cent. In the Bastion hospital where the serum treatment was adopted the cases numbered 179, with a mortality of 3.7 per cent. In the Saint Mandier Hospital of 151 cases treated with serum the mortality was under 6 per cent. The disease has been of an unusual virulence during this period. The fatal cases at the Bastion were attributable in most cases to intestinal perforation. Experimental results on guinea-pigs show that the serum has the power of preventing and curing fatal doses of the living typhoid organism or of the typhoid toxins.—F. P. G.

A Study of an Hæmolytic Complement Found in the Serum of the Rabbit.—SWEET (*Univ. of Penna. Med. Bulletin*, December, 1902, vol. xv.), as the result of a most painstaking research, comes to the following conclusion in regard to the complement in rabbit's serum necessary to complete the hæmolysis of bovine erythrocytes which have been sensibilized with artificially produced rabbit's immune body:

1. The complement content of the serum may be increased by the injection of certain chemiotactic substances such as aleuronat and oil of turpentine.

2. The complement is not secreted by leucocytes, but exists in the circulating plasma.

3. It does not occur in the normal aqueous fluid of the anterior chamber of the eye, but is present in the transudate which fills the chamber after the normal aqueous fluid has been withdrawn. This newly-formed fluid contains no leucocytes, and the complement contained in it is due to abnormal pressure osmosis of the ciliary vessels owing to decreased intra-ocular pressure.

4. An artificially prepared plasma contains complement.