

PATHOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGY

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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Pathological Rarities.—At the meeting of the German Pathological Association in Munich (*Centralbl. f. Allg. Path. u. path. Anat.*, Bd. 25, No. 10, May 31, 1914) VON HANSEMAN reported two cases of the formation of small shot-like masses in the appendix. Of the size of caviar, the masses were round, translucent, with a whitish core, and consisted of mucin and colloid. The appendix was enlarged, closed toward the cecum, perforated toward the peritoncum, and large numbers of these concretions were present. They are presumably found in widened mucous glands of the lining membrane, whence they are subsequently expelled. ROBERT MEYER showed a teratoma of the umbilical cord, which he describes as unique. Of the size of a child's head, it was situated in the course of the cord, 10 cm. from the cup of an umbilical hernia; it consisted for the most part of glia and entodermal parts, hair was absent, skin and sweat glands in small amount, as were bone and cartilage. Myxomas are found occasionally at the insertion of the cord, but this appears to be a very unusual tumor. Meyer considered it of somatic origin.

The Serum of Cold-blooded upon Warm-blooded Animals.—JURGE-LUNAS (*Zeit. f. Hyg. u. Infekt.*, 1914, Band lxxvi, Heft 3) details a number of operations upon the effects produced by the sera of cold-blooded animals upon warm-blooded. He found that serum from the eel, drake, pike, carp or frog are poisonous for mice, guinea-pigs, and rabbits, as evidenced by marked signs of malaise and fall in body temperature; the eel serum was more potent than the others above named. Such serums possess hemolytic powers over the blood corpuscles of man, and of the sheep as well as over the corpuscles of the rodents, but the poisoning properties are only indirectly connected with the hemolytic power, which is quickly and in great part lost by heating the serum.

Room Disinfection Against Tubercle Bacilli.—LAUBENHEIMER (*Zeits. f. Hyg. u. Infektionskr.*, Bd. 77, Hft. 1, 1914) has carried out a careful series of experiments with regard to the determination of proper means of disinfecting rooms infected with tuberculosis. Formaldehyde, sublimate 1 in 1000, and 5 per cent. cresol-soap, after nine hours application, are not sure disinfectants of dried sputum even in a thick layer, and of these formaldehyde is the best, if it be upon a hard surface that is not porous. Combinations of the above methods do not give any increased effectiveness; the soap or sublimate may even coat over the dried

sputum and thus protect it in some degree from the formalin. Formaldehyde and "phobrol"—apparently a new proprietary of the cresol group—give a more useful combination. Sublimite 1 in 200, and phobrol in 2 per cent. solution, if allowed five hours to work prove effective in killing the bacteria even in a thick layer.

The question is an important one; it is not known to the reviewer that any more effective method is used, in Canada at least, for the disinfection of rooms than the usual formalin method; and if it be quite ineffective for the killing of tubercle bacilli, the sooner the fact is generally known, the better for all persons concerned.

Hypertrophy of the Right Ventricle from Unusual Cause.—SCHÜTTE (*Centralbl. f. Allg. Path. u. path. Anat.*, Bd. 25, No. 11, June 15, 1914) describes a remarkable hypertrophy and dilatation of the right side of the heart occurring in a woman, aged seventy-four years, without general arteriosclerosis. The heart was large, death had occurred from cardiac insufficiency, but the enlargement was to a great extent right-sided. The cause of this was a remarkable inflammatory increase of the intima in the small branches of the pulmonary artery, especially those having a diameter of a quarter of a millimeter or less. There was an entire absence of emphysema or of disease of the valves of the left side of the heart, such as is usually found to cause arterial change of this nature. Several parallel cases have been recorded, usually under the title of idiopathic hypertrophy of the right ventricle.

The Intravascular Formation of Giant Cells.—WHITMAN (*Jour. Med. Res.*, January, 1914) has had opportunity of studying a giant-cell endothelioma of the gum and has been able to observe the intravascular formation of giant cells which has previously been observed in sporotrichosis. Whitman finds proliferation of endothelium of the bloodvessels, the nuclei proliferating from one side into the lumen surrounded by hyalin coagulum. The intima of the vessel may be recognized, still surrounding a lumen that is not yet completely obliterated, and blood cells may be seen in the process of phagocytosis of the new-formed cell. A subsequent thrombosis may destroy the outline of the vessels, and from this time the giant cell seems to lie in the tissue spaces. It owes the characteristic grouping of its nuclei to the fact that the proliferation of nuclei has occurred from one spot and has infiltrated a mass of preformed protoplasm. Whitman has also observed this mode of formation in blastomycosis and tuberculosis, although he does not consider that it is the only, or even the usual method.

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