

pathological urines into rabbits and noting the effects. He finds (1) that the injection of urine gives rise to the formation of hemolysins, precipitins, and complement binding antibodies in the serum of the injected animal. The precipitin formation is always more marked with the injection of normal urines than with albuminous; the fixation of complement, on the other hand, is greater when one uses albuminous urines for injecting the experimental animals. (2) The injection of urinary sediment and of the alcohol-ether insoluble portion of the non-dialyzable fraction ("lysogenous substance") of the urine produce the same changes in the serum of the injected animal as described under (1). (3) The "lysogenous substance" contains the normal urinary albumin and a number of other substances. In chronic nephritis this fraction is practically normal, whereas in acute nephritis its increase runs parallel to the amount of albumin. (4) Both qualitative and quantitative examination of this fraction show that its chief constituents are not albuminous. (5) The substances in the urine which act as antigen probably arise in the renal cells. (6) The urine is markedly toxic. The same is true of the lysogenous substance and of the sediment. Repeated injections seem to raise the resistance of the animal to the poisoning. (7) The symptoms of uremia are possibly due to a retention of the toxic bodies contained in the lysogenous substance. (8) The "Mörner fraction" of the urine contains traces of lysogenous bodies, but no precipitin or complement binding antigens, and is not toxic to animals. In the examination of the urine of 50 patients with hypertension, the usual heat and acetic acid test showed a trace of albumin in 15, the acetic acid and heat in 36 cases. In other conditions with a trace of albumin similar results were secured with the two methods of employing acetic acid.

---

**The Acetonitrile Reaction in Basedow's Disease.**—G. GHEDINI (*Wien. klin. Woch.*, 1911, xxiv, 736) has made an experimental and clinical study of the acetonitrile reaction of Reid Hunt. The latter found that the feeding of thyroid to white mice greatly increased their resistance to the poisonous effects of acetonitrile. Ghedini has used the blood of patients with a variety of diseases as food for mice. It is of interest that in three well-marked cases of Basedow's disease the reaction was strongly positive, whereas in two doubtful cases (*formes frustes*) the resistance of the mice remained unchanged.

---

**The Wassermann Reaction in Lead Poisoning.**—A. DREYER (*Deut. med. Woch.*, 1911, xxxvii, 786) has examined sera from a number of cases of lead poisoning. Of 35 cases of plumbism, 4 gave a positive Wassermann reaction; 25 were tested according to Stern's modification of the Wassermann technique, and of these, 12 were positive. The positive cases gave no history of syphilitic infection nor could signs of lues be found on physical examination. The author believes the positive reactions were due to the lead poisoning *per se* and not to a latent lues.

---

**A Urinary Reaction in Progressive Paralysis.**—H. M. STUCKEN (*Munch. med. Woch.*, 1911, lviii, 855) has repeated the work of Butenko, who found that the urine of patients suffering with progressive paralysis gave a characteristic reaction with liquor Belostii. Stucken finds the

reaction positive in a great many diseases other than progressive paralysis and in the latter his positive findings were proportionally much lower than Butenko's. He, therefore, concludes that the reaction is without diagnostic value.

---

**On the Transmission of Scarlatina to the Chimpanzee.**—LANDSTEINER, LEVADITI, and PRASEK (*Compt. rend. Soc. de biol.*, Paris, 1911, 641) have made several attempts to infect a chimpanzee with virulent matter from a child suffering from scarlatina. In their first experiment the throat of the chimpanzee was painted with material taken from the tonsils and pharynx of children suffering with scarlet fever with angina. This was followed in two days by a redness and swelling of the tonsils, fever, and presence of streptococci in the tonsillar secretions. Four days after the inoculation the throat was painted again and 75 c.c. of defibrinated blood taken from a severe case of scarlet fever were inoculated. Two days later there were redness and intense swelling of the pharynx, tonsils, and pillars of the fauces; white deposits on the tonsillar mucosa, and a general exanthem. The animal was very ill and died three days later. Abscesses formed at the point of inoculation of the blood. Autopsy: Swelling of the cervical glands and mediastinal glands; points of interstitial inflammation in the kidneys; lesions of the skin resembling those in scarlet fever. In the second case the injection of 50 c.c. of scarlatinal blood under the skin and painting of the throat as before was followed in forty-eight hours by slight fever and tonsillitis. There were no general phenomena. Reinjection ten days later produced tonsillitis again. Inoculation of streptococci isolated from the throat of these chimpanzees produced no result in the throats of others. In other words, painting the throats of the chimpanzee with products coming from scarlatinal children provokes an angina similar to that of patients suffering from scarlet fever, but it is not certain whether this angina is produced by the scarlatinal virus or by some other infection. While the observation is single and insufficient in itself, the authors point to the advisability of further experiments of the same nature.

---

**Use of Urotropin in Pneumonia.**—SHATTUCK (*Bost. Med. and Surg. Jour.*, 1911, clxiv, 842) reports his experience with the routine use of urotropin in pneumonia. It was originally given as a preventative for empyema in doses of 10 grains, *t. i. d.*, but after a study of 59 cases treated with the drug, as compared to 188 not treated with it, the incidence of empyema was certainly not lowered. The hopeful feature of the treatment is the fact that no pericarditis or otitis media developed in any of the cases.

---

**Antityphoid Vaccination per Rectum.**—COURMONT and ROCHAIX (*Presse Méd.*, 1911, 453) have vaccinated men per rectum against typhoid fever instead of subcutaneously. A bouillon culture of *Bacillus typhosus* was killed by heating to 53° C. After a preliminary evacuant enema, the patient was given 100 c.c. of this suspension of dead bacilli through a high rectal tube, 15 drops of laudanum being added to facilitate retention. The enema was retained about twenty-four hours. In no case was there fever, malaise, colic, or backache. The enemata